

Bush ahead of Dukakis: opinion polls

WASHINGTON, Sept 14, (AP): Michael Dukakis hammered away on the defence issue as he promised to improve America's conventional strength and maintain a strong nuclear deterrent.

His rival for the presidency, Vice-President George Bush, charged that Dukakis wants to control farmers' lives with an outdated agriculture policy that could include resumption of a Soviet grain embargo.

Bush's criticisms appear to have paid off — at least according to two public opinion polls.

A Gallup survey found Bush leading by an eight-percentage-point margin, and Dukakis suffering his highest negative rating of the presidential race.

A CBS News-New York Times poll also showed the Democratic nominee trailing by eight points, and Bush capitalizing on defence issues.

Yesterday, Bush pledged his support for expansion of American markets abroad and suggested that Dukakis and his fellow Democrats are only concerned with production controls.

They want to "control the lives of the farmers," he said.

Bush cited a published report that quoted a Dukakis aide as saying the Democratic nominee might re-examine the US policy of selling government-subsidized wheat to the Soviets.

Strongest hurricane on record

Gilbert lashes Yucatan

MERIDA, Mexico, Sept 14, (UPI): Gilbert, the strongest hurricane on record, lashed Mexico's Yucatan peninsula today, howling along a track that could carry its 175-MPH (280 KPH) winds into Texas by week's end. At least 14 people have been killed and 500,000 left homeless in the storm's rampage through the Caribbean.

Gilbert began pounding the posh beach resorts and 1,000-year-old Mayan ruins of the Yucatan peninsula early today. Mexico placed its armed forces on "red alert," and 100,000 people fled the hurricane's burgeoning fury.

Supplies

The National Hurricane Centre in Miami predicted Gilbert would strike across the peninsula around midday with 15-foot (4.5 m) waves, raking Cuba's west coast along the way, then plow into the Gulf of Mexico and hit Texas slightly south of Galveston by Friday night if it maintains its present course.

Along Texas's gulf coast, helicopters ferried nearly 1,000 workers from offshore oil rigs, residents made runs on emergency supplies and communities issued pleas for blood donations.

At 1000 GMT, the centre of Gilbert was near latitude 20.2

north, longitude 86.0 west, or about 65 miles (100 km) east-southeast of the island of Cozumel, Mexico, and moving west-northwest at 15 MPH (25 KPH). The storm's sustained winds of 175 MPH (280 KPH) with gusts of 200 MPH (320 KPH) made it a category five hurricane, meaning it is capable of causing catastrophic damage.

"If it were actually to hit land with this magnitude, the degree of destruction is incomprehensible," hurricane centre director Bob Sheets said. "We are hopeful this will not take place."

Banned

Cuba banned travel by air and sea in advance of Gilbert, and powerful waves began inflicting damage along its western coast last night, the Cuban news agency, Prensa Latina, reported.

Gilbert knifed the heart of the Caribbean since springing to life Saturday night, and at least 14 people have been reported killed.

Pope leaves for Lesotho by car after an unscheduled landing in Johannesburg

Nuns held hostage in Maseru

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Sept 14, (Agencies): Pope John Paul II, an outspoken critic of South Africa's apartheid policies, made an unscheduled landing today in Johannesburg after bad weather and airport equipment trouble prevented his plane from going to Lesotho.

The Pope, who had planned to bypass South Africa during his current tour of neighbouring states, spent three hours at Jan Smuts airport before he and his entourage left for Lesotho in a convoy of cars and buses.

He did not kiss the ground at Jan Smuts, as he customarily does the first time he visits a country, and made no public statements during his stay in the terminal.

Privilege

The trip to Lesotho was expected to take at least five hours over a 440-kilometre (270-mile) route.

Foreign Minister P. W. Botha greeted the Pope on the steps leading from the plane and accompanied him into a VIP lounge while security forces deployed inside and outside the terminal.

"We consider it a privilege to assist the Holy Father," said Botha, who ordered 100 luncheons for the entourage.

Meanwhile, in Maseru, a standoff continued between police and suspected guerrillas who commandeered a bus of nuns, schoolchildren and pilgrims that was en route to see John Paul.

Robin Cartwright, the pilot of the Pope's chartered Air Zimbabwe Boeing 707, circled over Maseru, Lesotho, for 30 minutes before deciding to divert the flight because of a low cloud ceiling and malfunctioning radio beacons at the airport.

The Pope's spokesman, Joaquin Navarro, said John Paul was reading a book of philosophy when he was told of the change in plans.

Freezing rain fell on Lesotho, a mountain kingdom completely surrounded by South Africa. King Moshoeshoe II and other officials waited at the airport for hours before the announcement that the Pope would come by road.

Kidnapped

In Maseru, a British diplomat said the pilgrims were still being held hostage in a bus outside the British High Commission (Embassy).

An unknown number of nuns and children travelling to see the Pope were kidnapped yesterday evening. One priest said the gun-

men boarded the bus dressed in nuns' habits. He said it was carrying about 60 pilgrims.

Nervous Lesotho soldiers kept newsmen away from the scene. Gervaise Chavasse, British deputy high commissioner, said one hostage had managed to escape.

"He is talking to the police and says the hijackers claim to be members of the Lesotho Liberation Army," Chavasse said.

"The police told me a few minutes ago it (the hostage drama) is still going on," he said.

The Lesotho Liberation Army is the military wing of the Basotho Congress Party which has been exiled since 1970. The party opposed the civilian government of chief Leboa Jonathan, who was overthrown as prime minister by a South African-sponsored coup in January 1986.

Until the current military rulers took power, the guerrillas made periodic hit-and-run raids.

The streets of Maseru were tense as this tiny, turbulent state awaited the Pope's arrival on the third leg of a five-nation southern African tour.

Helicopters flew overhead. Soldiers patrolled the streets, angrily pushing away journalists attempting to get a glimpse of the

bus. The government, in a radio broadcast, said it was "in full control of the situation" but did not give details.

Radio Maseru, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said the "primary objective of the government of Lesotho... is the safety of the nuns and other hostages and that the visit of the Holy Father should continue unperturbed as planned."

A nun who identified herself as sister Rita said the bus was travelling from the Daughters of Charity Convent in the town of Quacha's Nek.

Lesotho is entirely surrounded by South Africa and depends on its neighbour for food and medical supplies. More than half Lesotho's income comes from migrant workers employed in South Africa.

A Johannesburg newspaper, the Star, reported that South Africa had sent a task force to Lesotho to help free the hostages if necessary.

It said Lesotho's military ruler, General Lekhanya, had telephoned the commander of the South African police task force, General Bert Wandrag, with a request for aid.

Arafat is ready to meet ...

(Continued from Page 1)

"Help those who are peace-lovers in Israel to establish peace. Is peace not worth some sacrifices?" he said.

Diplomatic sources said that in his remarks today and in his speech yesterday, Arafat skillfully marked out the next steps in his diplomatic campaign for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

Arafat today thanked French Socialist President Francois Mitterrand for allowing his visit to Strasbourg. The PLO chief fired off several compliments evidently aimed at French public opinion.

"I am looking for a (General Charles) de Gaulle in Israel," he said, when asked who he thought was the Israeli politician most able to make peace with the PLO. The allusion may have been to De Gaulle's skilful disengagement from Algeria in 1962, ending a brutal war of independence.

The diplomatic sources said Arafat's offer to meet Israeli officials in a member nation of the UN Security Council was an obvious hint the PLO leader sees France as a potential venue for an international peace conference — and more specifically, at Strasbourg itself.

Proposal

Arafat also urged the United States to bring to fruition President Woodrow Wilson's original proposal for the creation of both Jewish and Arab Palestinian states embodied in a later UN Resolution 181.

"It is possible to recognise just half of this resolution," Arafat asked. "The United States has to stand for justice and fairness. It should not just think of electoral considerations."

Israel accused France of breaking its word by having Dumas meet Arafat for the first time on French soil today.

Arafat had done nothing to deserve such a diplomatic reward, Israeli spokesmen said. They also rejected Arafat's speech.

Reagan to meet GCC delegation

WASHINGTON, Sept 14, (KUNA): President Reagan will meet a high-level delegation of Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) nations when he visits the United Nations later this month, the White House has announced. Spokesman Martin Fitzwater said the meeting between Reagan and the GCC delegation was scheduled for the evening of Sept 26.

Kuwait urges ...

(Continued from Page 1)

international oil markets in order.

He said non-OPEC producers should "shoulder a responsibility not less than that of OPEC states to maintain the stability of the oil market."

Spot oil prices have been up to five dollars below OPEC's \$18 per barrel benchmark price since the beginning of September due to high levels of production by members of the 13-nation group.

Iraq agrees to attend ...

(Continued from Page 1)

devoting themselves to humanitarian acts such as removing bodies from the battlefield to prevent the spread of disease.

Jovic, who is based in Baghdad, said his forces reported two incidents since the ceasefire came into force last month involving the shootings of an Iranian and an Iraqi soldier.

Meanwhile, Iraqi State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saadoun Hammadi arrived in Moscow today for talks with Soviet officials expected to centre on the stalemate in Iraq's peace negotiations with Iran.

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Gunman frees hostages after five-hour siege

RICHMOND, Va., Sept 14, (Reuters): A lone gunman who had demanded peace in Lebanon surrendered after a five-hour siege in which he held 11 people hostage at a military recruiting office today, police said.

The gunman, identified by police as a 20-year-old Richmond resident of Lebanese descent, surrendered around 2 pm (1600 GMT), 30 minutes after freeing all of his hostages.

The man had demanded that a local radio station read his plea for peace in Lebanon. His demand was not met.

Armed

The hostages were held at the Tuckernuck Square armed services recruiting office in a busy shopping centre in West Richmond, about 100 miles (160 km) from Washington.

The gunman released his hostages one by one until all were freed by 1.30 pm (1530 GMT).

The gunman walked into the recruiting office armed with a handgun and a Soviet-made AK-47 automatic weapon, police said. He surrendered the rifle during negotiations and gave up his handgun later.

Officers said he had told authorities that he had two armed friends with him but police said only the one man was involved.

Escaped detainees can go free, say police

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Sept 14, (AP): Police said today they would not re-arrest three prominent anti-apartheid activists who escaped from detention and have taken refuge at the US consulate.

"They can walk out and they will not be re-detained," said police Brig. Leon Mellet. "Their release already was under consideration, and we have no plans to re-arrest them."

Mellet said the police would have to issue new orders if it wanted to detain the trio again, but that there were no plans to do so.

The activists escaped from a hospital yesterday and made their way about midday into the consulate in a downtown Johannesburg office building. Their lawyer, Krish Naidoo, entered the consulate today, apparently to visit the men, and said he would meet later with the activists' families.

Illegitimate babies

LONDON, Sept 14, (KUNA): The number of births outside marriage was continuing to rise in Britain as nearly one in four babies now is illegitimate, according to official figures released here.

More than 23 per cent of births last year were illegitimate, compared with 21 per cent in 1986, and 10 per cent in 1977.

Cocaine burned

LIMA, Sept 14, (Reuters): Peru has burned four tonnes of cocaine paste and 72 kilos (160 pounds) of pure cocaine seized in recent anti-narcotics operations.

Interior Minister Juan Soria told reporters who came to watch the incineration that the cocaine was worth at least \$120 million on the world market.

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Murphy holds talks in Damascus

US, Syria try to defuse Lebanese crisis

DAMASCUS, Sept. 14, (AP): US envoy Richard Murphy met with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa today to discuss how to defuse a political crisis in Lebanon that threatens to reignite that country's 13-year-old civil war, officials reported.

They gave no details of the meeting. But an official source, who insisted on anonymity, said when Murphy arrived last night that reconciling Syrian and US views on Lebanon "will be a difficult and complicated task."

The United States and Syria have been seeking to ensure that a presidential election which must be held before Sept. 23 is carried out to avoid a dangerous political vacuum.

But Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon, has accused Washington of obstructing the election and backing Christian Parliament members who boycotted in Aug. 18 session called to elect a new President.

Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs, flew to the Syrian capital after Lebanese Parliament Speaker Hussein Husseini scheduled a parliamentary electoral session for Sept. 22.

That is only one day before President Amin Gemayel's six-year term expires. Constitutionally he cannot seek a second consecutive term.

Backing Husseini said the house would meet at the old Parliament building in the Muslim sector of Beirut, rather than the building on Beirut's dividing Green Line it has used since 1976.

Right-wing Christians rejected that, branding it a "booby trapped move ... aimed at sabotaging the presidential election session."

The Aug. 18 electoral session collapsed when Christian legislators failed to attend in protest against the candidacy of Syrian-

backed former President Suleiman Franjeh, the only serious contender.

The Syrians have stressed they still back Franjeh, a Maronite Catholic who was President from 1970 to 1976.

Another Christian, Raymond Edde, 73, who has lived in self-imposed exile since 1976 after several abortive assassination attempts, threw his hat into the ring Monday and announced he would run as a candidate.

The right-wing Lebanese Forces, the Christian's main militia, are understood to have dropped their earlier opposition to Edde, raising some hopes that he could be acceptable to both sides as a compromise candidate.

High-level US mediation between Damascus and Lebanon's Christians hit snags last month after Franjeh announced his candidacy two days before the Aug. 18 parliament session.

But US State Department

spokesman Charles Redman said Monday: "We welcome and strongly support speaker Husseini's call for Parliament to meet Sept. 22 to elect a new President."

"We continue to believe that the Lebanese presidential election must proceed constitutionally and peacefully, with a President dedicated to reconciliation and reform taking office Sept. 23."

Officials in Damascus said that before meeting Murphy, Sharaa conferred separately with the new US Ambassador to Syria, Edward Djerejian, who arrived with Murphy, and presented his credentials.

Djerejian's predecessor, William Eagleton, left Syria last month after 3 1/2 years in Damascus.

The official Syrian Arab News Agency said Sharaa and Djerejian discussed the Middle East situation and US relations

with Syria.

Reliable sources said Djerejian, and David Newton, the former US ambassador to Iraq and now head of the State Department's Syria, Lebanon and Jordan desk, also attended the meeting between Murphy and Sharaa.

Syria's state-controlled media called today on "all the Lebanese to make advantage of the occasion available to save Lebanon, and to make Sept. 22 an historic day."

Syria has some 40,000 troops in eastern and northern provinces as well as the Muslim sector of Beirut.

The Christian oppose Syrians efforts to push through political reforms that would give Lebanon's Muslim majority equality with the Christians who have dominated Parliament, the Army and judiciary since independence from France in 1943.

Opposition leaders in Burma plan strategy

RANGOON, Sept. 14, (Reuters): The struggle for Burmese democracy has largely moved into political meeting rooms, diplomats said today, even though groups of militant students continued to march and chant on the streets.

Yesterday afternoon, prominent opposition figures promised to present a plan for an alternative government to student leaders within 48 hours.

Opposition leaders could not be reached by telephone yesterday, but diplomats said they would be holding meetings today and tomorrow to try to forge a united front within the 48-hour deadline.

Contact

In addition to meeting senior leaders, the students are in constant contact now with the hundreds of trade unions formed as the hold of the Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP) has loosened, a Western diplomat said.

There appears to be an effort to reach serious negotiations,

he said.

General Tin Oo, a former defence minister who has emerged as a leading opposition figure, was busy trying to organise a system to bring rice into the capital, where many are going hungry, a diplomat said.

Diplomats and opposition sources said the agreement of former Prime Minister U Nu was critical to the formation of any plan for an interim government.

U Nu, who was ousted in a 1962 coup, tried to establish a provisional government last week but withdrew the attempt after he failed to rally support from other opposition factions.

"U Nu's group does carry a certain amount of clout for old times sake throughout the country," a diplomat said, "and they might find it easier to form a party than the other groups because U Nu goes back to the pre-1962 set up."

"Although it seems an awfully long time ago in many other countries' political life, it has happened politically in Burma that people cannot meet after

what it was like before 1962."

The 1962 coup brought Ne Win to power, where he remained until his resignation in July in the face of mounting street protests. He is still believed to have the decisive vote in setting BSPP policy.

Meeting

Last night's television news programme in Rangoon carried a report of a meeting held earlier in the day between senior opposition leaders and the government's newly appointed election commission.

The election commission was reported to regret that the opposition would not participate in the polls. The broadcast also stated the opposition position that it could not hope to have fair elections under the BSPP.

"It was a clear statement of two opposing views," a diplomat said. "It was remarkable that it was shown on television, which has been used in the past almost exclusively as a vehicle of the government."

Impasse on US bases in Philippines continues

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Philippines Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus and US Secretary of State George Shultz made no progress yesterday toward resolving an impasse over US military bases, Manglapus told reporters.

"Nothing to justify my saying we're closer together," was how Manglapus summed up a 45-minute discussion at the State Department.

"We reiterated the point of view of the Philippines government, he reiterated the US government position and that's where we stood."

Purpose

US officials and congressional sources say Washington will not bow to Philippines demands for \$1.2 billion in annual aid to pave the way for a new agreement on US retention of strategic Subic Bay Naval Base and Clark Air Base after 1991.

Manglapus said after talks yesterday: "In absolute and relative terms, we have not been getting what we ought to be getting."

He said the base were primarily there to serve US

global strategy, not to protect the Philippines, and that the Philippines had received no compensation for the bases until the late 1970s.

Manglapus, Manila's chief negotiator on the bases, will meet congressional leaders this week and is expected to see Shultz again later this month in New York during the opening of the United Nations General Assembly session.

Shultz said in a speech last Friday: "We frankly think that what the Philippines seem to be asking is out of bounds."

Congressional sources told Reuters last week Manila had rejected an interim US aid offer of \$481 million a year for 1989 and 1990, including \$360 million in annual security assistance and economic support funds.

"They want \$1.2 billion a year but they are not going to get it," said a congressional official, who asked not to be identified.

Subic and Clark are two of the most important US bases, considered key bastions of American power in the Pacific, and Washington wants to continue using them.



A soldier distributes food to flood victims at a relief camp near Dhaka.

Rains renew disaster fears in Sudan

KHARTOUM, Sept. 14, (AP): Heavy overnight rains flooded Khartoum's streets yesterday, snarling traffic and causing damage in several shantytowns for a second time in just over a month.

Some houses collapsed in a Khartoum quarter, raising fears of a renewal of last month's disaster that killed at least 96 people and left millions homeless in central, western and northern Sudan.

Thousands of workers and employees lined up, waiting for buses held up by traffic jams, and many shops and restaurants were closed.

The rains started late Monday and went on through the night until early yesterday. Houses in the shantytowns of Haj Yousif, Kartoon Kassala and Takamul around Khartoum, weakened in the August downpour, are near total collapse, witnesses said.

More than eight inches (20 cm) of rain fell on Khartoum Aug. 4-5, triggering massive floods that were made worse by the annual flood of the Nile from drought-breaking rains upstream in Ethiopia.

Situation becoming difficult in Bangladesh

Acute shortage of fresh food

DHAKA, Sept. 14, (Reuters): The death toll in devastating monsoon floods in Bangladesh topped 1,000 today after at least 50 more people died of disease and snakebites, officials said.

However, daily reports in Dhaka newspapers have recorded a total of 1,723 deaths so far. Officials said nearly 300,000 other people infected with diarrhoea, dysentery and other water-borne diseases were facing acute shortages of fresh food and medicine.

"Trying to save them is an uphill battle and the situation is becoming more difficult with gradual recession of the floodwaters," said one doctor at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

President Hussain Muhammad Ershad has ordered all hospitals to open special units for diarrhoeal patients and to keep the sick in overcrowded refugee

camps isolated from others.

"Let us fight the floods and the problems it brought united and squarely," he told flood victims in southeastern Comilla district yesterday.

Ershad repeated his confidence that no one would die from starvation but said the economic losses caused by the floods would be colossal.

According to official figures, the flooding, worst on record in Bangladesh, destroyed eight million homes, leaving 30 million people homeless.

The deluge also washed away three million tonnes of rice in the fields, destroyed 3,500 km (2,200 miles) of roads, 630 km (390 miles) of rail lines and 250 bridges.

Bangladesh has so far received pledges of \$280 million in flood aid from various governments and international agencies, and 10 helicopters to ferry relief supplies to the victims.

But officials said emergency supplies and logistics are still inadequate to feed or reach millions of people marooned in 53 of the country's 64 administrative districts.

At Balurchar village, three miles (five km) from Dhaka, people who were living perched on trees have now shifted onto the roofs of their homes as the flood level dropped by about three feet (one metre).

"Only voluntary organisations are sending us one meal in two or three days," said villager Harunur Rashid.

The chief of the United Nations Disaster Relief Organisation, Mohamed Essafi, who arrived yesterday to co-ordinate international relief efforts, described the floods as a national catastrophe.

"My first job here should be to assess the magnitude of the catastrophe in order to be able to move relief quickly," he told reporters.

Reagan wants to admit 94,000 refugees

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14, (Reuters): The Reagan administration has proposed admitting 94,000 refugees and Vietnamese children fathered by American servicemen to the United States in the year starting Oct. 1.

The figure, which depends on Congress providing sufficient funds, compares with 83,500 expected to be admitted during the current fiscal year and would be the highest refugee admission total since 1982.

The new ceiling was made public by Secretary of State George Shultz, who told the Senate Judiciary committee it included 53,000 people from Asia, mostly Indochina.

It also includes 24,500 from East Europe and the Soviet Union, 3,500 from Latin America, 2,000 from Africa and 7,000 from the Middle East and South Asia.

Shultz said progress was being made in efforts to bring out of Vietnam Amerasians fathered by US servicemen during the Vietnam war and other Vietnamese under a so-called orderly departure programme started nine years ago to provide a legal alternative to departures from the country by boat.

Gorbachev defends reform policies

MOSCOW, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, facing a second day of haranguing on the streets of the Siberian city of Krasnoyarsk, defended his perestroika reform policies and called on people to do more for themselves.

Soviet television yesterday showed Gorbachev mingling with crowds in Krasnoyarsk, where he was greeted on his arrival on Monday with a stream of complaints about the Kremlin's failure to improve food supplies.

Attitude

"Every leader would like to open a box and offer the people the contents," he told workers outside a chemicals plant, "but we have nothing to open."

Facing a bombardment of criticism about food supplies, prices, work conditions and pollution, the Kremlin leader blamed government attitudes, ministerial blunders and bad planning, but said it was up to the people to work themselves.

"People keep coming to me and saying, 'Mikhail Sergeyevich, do something,'" Gorbachev said. "But it is time to abandon Tsars and dictators. Of

course we need authoritative people and leaders, but at all levels, from the bottom up."

A number of people complained bitterly about the recently-introduced co-operative system, a mainstay of Gorbachev's perestroika, or economic restructuring.

Answering charges that co-operative ventures attracted the best workers out of the state sector, Gorbachev said that such ventures would be essential to help prevent unemployment when industry shed up to 14 million jobs by the year 2000.

But he conceded that some of the prices being charged by co-operatives were excessive. "Five times as much as the state price is outrageous," he said.

TV

The television also showed a meeting between Gorbachev and local leaders and heads of enterprises, where he took the opportunity to pass on some of the complaints he had heard.

Interrupting an address on meat production figures, the Soviet leader retorted: "Your calculations say we have almost reached the right figure, but the people are laughing."

W. German hostage savours freedom

BONN, Sept. 14, (Reuters): West German businessman Rudolf Cordes has returned home from 20 months captivity after being released by his Lebanese kidnappers — a freedom Bonn says was won without concessions.

Gaunt but apparently physically healthy, Cordes arrived at Cologne-Bonn airport on a special Air Force jet late on Tuesday night, exactly a day after his abductors set him free on a Beirut Street. From there he had been taken to Damascus.

He was whisked away by another plane in the darkness to an undisclosed location.

Throughout Tuesday triumphant politicians in Bonn said Cordes' release — just over a year after a second West German, Alfred Schmidt, was set free by Lebanese kidnappers — had shown the merits of good relations with Iran and Syria.

But Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Chancellor Minister Wolfgang Schauble, head of the government's hostage crisis team, stressed that Bonn had made no financial deal or exchange for a Lebanese hijacker on trial in Frankfurt.

Schauble, who flew to Damascus yesterday with Cordes' wife Marlene to greet the former captive and bring him home, told national television that Cordes, 55, was in good health "considering the circumstances."

Ground-breaking visit to Hungary

TEL AVIV, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir went to Hungary today for the first visit by an Israeli premier to an East European country, except Romania, since Israel's creation in 1948.

Aides said the visit was a private one but Shamir would stay in a residence for high-ranking government guests and meet Prime Minister Karoly Grosz and Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi.

"The visit will last several days, it has not yet been decided exactly how long," one aide said.

Ties between Israel and Hungary were re-established last year at a lower-than-ambassadorial level after a 20-year-break initiated by the Soviet Union and followed by all East European countries, except Romania, during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

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KUWAIT ... GULF

KSRC may help clear Shatt Al Arab waterway

By Fathima Ahmed

A TOP executive of the Kuwait Shipbuilding and Repairing Co. (KSRC) has said his company will "get involved with clearing" the disputed Shatt Al Arab waterway of war debris and mines and stands a good chance of doing the work.

KSRC's Managing Director Mousa Jafar Marafi said his company was at an advantage due to Kuwait's proximity to the waterway.

Findings

"We are the nearest and our costs are economic. We also have the facilities, trained and skilled staff. Quality vs price, we are competitive," he said.

KSRC has begun a survey to study prospects and is "interested in dredging the waterway" to clear war debris and mines. KSRC's subsidiary, Gulf Dredging Co., would do the work along with other regional and foreign companies, Marafi said.

Marafi did not divulge the

findings of the survey, which is nearly complete, but said "a lot of work is involved" and the task would require tremendous effort by several companies, both regional and foreign.

Marafi said the clearing of the waterway will start only after safety has been ensured. He said: "No one will go (to Shatt Al Arab) until he is sure on his safety."

The dispute on sovereignty over the Shatt Al Arab is one of the main causes of the deadlock during the Geneva peace talks, which adjourned on Tuesday. Iraq and Iran have agreed to observe the ceasefire which took effect on Aug 20.

Indicator

After the ceasefire KSRC began gearing up for more business after an eight-year slowdown. Marine work had nearly halted at the Kuwait-based repair yard, which failed to attract business due to its proximity to the war zone.

Marafi admitted the market had been on a decline for the

past few years" but is confident business will improve. Business is now picking up. One indicator was the recent arrival to Kuwait of two ships trapped by the Gulf war for eight years in Khawr Zubayr, a port in a narrow estuary south of Basra in Iraq.

The 23,669 tonne Panama-flag container ship Crescent and the 10,523 tonne Greek-flag ship Dimitrios arrived on their own power on Sept 7.

The Crescent, after minor repairs at the ship yard, left Kuwait earlier this week.

Marafi said the ships were "surprisingly in worthy condition," mainly because the crew was maintaining them.

The Dimitrios is under repair, requiring hull maintenance, painting and correction of some mechanical faults.

If the peace talks lead to a firm truce, the company expects more business to come their way. According to Lloyd's Shipping List, 93 ships are trapped in the northern Gulf, 75 in the Shatt Al Arab, nine in Khawr Zubayr and nine in Umm Qasr Port.

Kuwait condemns US accusations against Iraq

FOR the second time in two days, Kuwait has condemned American allegations that Iraq used chemical weapons on Kurdish rebels.

A Kuwaiti spokesman said US Ambassador to Kuwait W. Nathaniel Howell was summoned to the Foreign Ministry yesterday, where Foreign Minister Al Shaheen expressed Kuwait's "extreme concern" over Washington's accusations.

It was the second Kuwaiti move against the US Senate's decision to impose sanctions on Iraq. Kuwait's Cabinet Sunday expressed regret at the Senate move.

"Al Shaheen also relayed to the US diplomat Kuwait's regret over the way the American media exploited such allegations... at a time when neutral bodies such as the International Red Crescent announced they had not found evidence Iraq used chemical weapons," the spokesman said.

While Kuwait is keen to see world attention focus on the current negotiations between Iraq and Iran in Geneva, Washington's invoking of such issues will only complicate the negotiation process and undermine chances for a comprehensive peace settlement, he said.

Kuwait, which buys most of its arms from the United States, gave Iraq strong support during the war, as did Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Jordan.

Underline

Saudi Arabia denounced the Senate sanctions vote against Iraq in a report issued by the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) on Tuesday.

"Saudi Arabia expresses its deep regret for these efforts and reiterates its complete support for Iraq's efforts to bring peace, security and stability to the Arabian Gulf region," SPA quoted an official as saying.

The Bahrain Foreign Ministry also issued a statement on Tues-



Al Shaheen.

day regretting the US accusations, which diplomats in the region have said could undermine US influence with Arab countries.

The 21-member Arab League, ending a meeting of its Foreign Ministers' Council in Tunis on Monday, condemned what it called the media campaign against Iraq.

"The council announces its condemnation of this campaign and reaffirms its total solidarity with Iraq," it said.

No evidence

Other Arab states, including Jordan and Kuwait, have accused American Jewish lobbyists of swaying the Senate and attacking Iraq to divert attention from Israel's actions against Palestinian rebels in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

The US accusations were repeated on Tuesday by Secretary of State George Shultz who told a Senate committee the evidence was conclusive.

About 60,000 Kurds have fled the fighting into Turkey, which said yesterday its medical experts found no evidence that chemical arms had been used against the refugees.

A UN spokeswoman said on

Tuesday, UN and Red Cross representatives who visited Kurdish refugees in northwestern Iraq also found no sign of injuries from chemical weapons.

In Washington, the United States and key allies asked the United Nations Tuesday to send investigators to Iraq to determine if poison gas is being used against Kurdish rebels.

Britain, West Germany and Japan joined in the request to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, asking the United Nations to dispatch investigators to northern Iraq to look for evidence of chemical warfare in Iraq's rugged northernmost province of Kurdistan.

Deny

But an Iraqi official said Tuesday his country probably will not allow the UN team enter Iraq.

"This is considered a question of sovereignty and therefore I do not think we are going to accept that," said the official who insisted he not be named.

The UN secretary-general asked Iraq later at night to allow the team to proceed with the investigation, supported by Italy, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Iceland.

The official repeated Iraq's denials that it had used such weapons and said the US did not provide any proof.

"How can it be? Did they get it from God? We deny the use of chemical weapons, especially in this case," he stressed.

Unclear

The official noted that during the war with Iran, halted by a ceasefire on Aug 20, Iraqi officials used "flexible" language which left it unclear if they were using chemical warfare.

They maintained they had the right to use any means to repel invaders. "This case is different," he said, referring to the fact the Kurds are Iraqi citizens.

The official said that his country also was not likely to give the United States assurances it was not using chemical weapons, if the demand was considered a violation of Iraq's sovereignty.

The UN Security Council passed last Friday calls for economic sanctions against Iraq unless American President Ronald Reagan certifies Iraq has provided assurances it did not use such methods against the Kurdish population.

But he indicated Iraq would have no objection to assurances that it did not consider violate its sovereignty.

4,202 cases patronised by Minors Authority

THE 1987 annual report of the Public Authority for Minors Affairs has revealed that 4,202 cases are still being patronised by the authority and the number of cases is expected to reach 9,699 by 1993.

Since its establishment, the authority has patronised 30,024 minors, 2,578 of whom had patronage withdrawn in 1987 according to the report.

Particular concern is being given to the investment of minors' funds. The authority has set up an investment policy aimed at increasing investment yields and diminishing risk opportunities, the report said.

The report also disclosed that the authority is negotiating with the Credit and Savings Bank on the issue of exempting minors from repaying parents' loans. Such debts totalled KD600,000 in 1987, but these will be treated as lapsed upon the death of borrowers, the report added.

Flag Square to be cultivated

THE chairman of the Committee for Celebration of Afforestation Week, Abdul Mohsen Al Ghallaf, said yesterday that a timetable has been devised to plant trees in several open areas in the country starting on Oct 15.

Ghallaf, who is also director of the Parks Department at the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources said, in an interview with Kuwait News Agency, that one of the areas chosen to be cultivated is the Flag Square where grass and 1,500 trees of various types will be planted.

Depends

The afforestation project, carried out by the Public Authority, depends on citizens cutting down their water consumption to provide enough water for irrigation.

The afforestation project is aimed at improving weather conditions in the country and increasing the percentage of oxygen in the air. Ghallaf said the project will also lessen the reper-



Al Ghallaf

cussions of sand storms. He also urged those who camp during the spring season to not destroy the desert's wild plants, because there are plans to beautify desert areas as well.

Sheikh Sabah discusses Afghan crisis with Wakil

KUWAIT'S Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed met yesterday with his Afghan counterpart, Abdul Wakil, and discussed latest developments in the Afghan crisis, officials said.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Sheikh Sabah stressed the importance of "solving conflicts and disputes through negotiations and by peaceful means."

The Kuwaiti spokesman said "sitting at the negotiating table is considered the best and only way to solve any dispute and any problem."

Kuwait is the only state among the six-member Gulf Co-operation Council to maintain diplomatic ties with the Soviet-backed Kabul government.

Amir of Qatar meets Bahraini prince

DOHA, Sept 14 (KUNA): The Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, met today with visiting Bahraini Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad Bin Issa Al Khalifa.

Qatar News Agency said talks dealt with bilateral relations, Gulf and Arab issues of mutual concern and "ways to boost co-operation and understanding among the Gulf Co-operation Council states."

Sheikh Hamad arrived here earlier today in response to an invitation by Qatari Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad Al Thani.

Civil defence directors discuss public safety

RIYADH, Sept 14 (KUNA): Civil defence general directors of the six GCC member states ended their second session here last night under the chairmanship of Lieut. General Hashim Abdul Rahman, the director general of Saudi Civil Defence.

Addressing the final session, Hashim said that the meeting dealt with public safety and protection from natural and industrial hazards.

He said the participants expressed sincere desire for reaching realistic practical resolutions on these matters.

No plan for government daily

THE Kuwaiti government has no intention to publish a government daily or open a commercial television channel, according to the Information Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Jaffer.

Meanwhile, the new censorship law is still being studied and will take into consideration the interests of the public, he added.

Censorship procedures as laid down by the ministry are a form of joint censorship between the ministry and the local papers taking into consideration circumstances prevailing in the region, Jaffer said.

Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah, the Minister of Information, is giving special attention to developing the ministry's administrative and technical staff, he added.

Kuwait is proud of its local press and would like the majority of its journalistic staff to be Kuwaiti nationals, Jaffer said.

A department for information at Kuwait University is also being planned, Jaffer said.

Ministry will open four service centres

MOHAMMED AL-RAKHIS, head of the Commercial Licences Department at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has said that the ministry will modernise service centres in Kuwait's industrial areas.

In an interview with a local daily, he said that the department will start operating four new service centres during the next three months.

Meanwhile, the department still lacks data to provide comprehensive information on the industrial sector in Kuwait, he said. The ministry is keen to support industry to further extend its economic and development role.

Al-Rakhis emphasised that the ministry, in co-operation with the relevant authorities, strives to find solutions to violations in Shuwaikh Industrial Area. The department has cut red tape in the licence renewal process, he added.

Furthermore, the ministry has stipulated a maximum four month period for submission of industrial feasibility studies, Al-Rakhis said.

Grand Mosque expansion under way

RIYADH, Sept 13, (Reuters): King Fahd of Saudi Arabia gave the go ahead today for a project to increase the capacity of Islam's holiest mosque in Makkah to accommodate 605,000 Muslims.

Official figures showed the new project would make space for an extra 205,000 people at the Grand Mosque, built around the black square-shaped Ka'aba.

Riyadh this year enforced a quota system of one pilgrim for every 1,000 Muslims in any country to cut the number of visitors while construction work was under way in Makkah.

About 1.4 million Muslims performed the pilgrimage in July but in past years more than two million Muslims visited the holy sites for the pilgrimage (haj).

Shrimp fishermen call for changes

LOCAL fishermen have presented a number of demands to the Department of Agriculture and Fish Wealth concerning the improvement of the shrimp fishing industry in Kuwait.

They called for the extension of shrimp fishing periods in the evening, claiming that the number of shrimps increases in the cool of the night.

Other fishermen demanded an increase in the issue of licences to encourage the boat-building industry.

Cramped conditions at the fish market in Kuwait Souk have prompted complaints from both residents and fishermen. The fishermen's union president said that the market will be transferred to the Nogat Al Shamlan area at the beginning of next year.

Husain Ahmad, the owner of an auctioneers office at the market, expects a good shrimp season this year. He said the market currently receives 250 baskets of shrimp on a daily basis.

Road closed

A RESPONSIBLE source at the Public Relations Department of the Ministry of the Interior has said that a part of the 6th Ring Road was closed yesterday for alterations to telephone cables.

The section of road, between its junction with Airport Road and Ghazali Road, will be reopened late Friday.

The source has asked drivers to use alternative routes, which are: Airport Road, Ghazali Road and the 5th Ring Road.

Cultural committee formed in Kuwait

PARIS, Sept 14, (KUNA): Kuwait has formed a National Committee for Culture in accordance with the decision of the general conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, it was disclosed here yesterday.

Speaking at the first session for the International Committee of International Decade for Cultural Development (ICDD), councillor at the Amiri Diwan Abdulaziz Hussein said that the Kuwaiti National Committee is anxious to call a meeting of all national Arab committees for

culture. The meeting will be to co-ordinate activities in the framework of the ICDD programme, he said.

He said the world needs intensive media campaigns to identify the meaning and implication of the word culture. "Culture is no longer a luxury monopolised by a small minority... It is a daily meal and a style of life, especially in the developing world."

Despite his strong support for cultural forms and norms, Hussein opposed a permanent international council for culture under UNESCO because other international institutions, affiliated with or outside UNESCO, can do the job.

Sudanese official meets Kuwaiti minister

VISITING Sudanese Tourism Minister Amin Bashir Al Ghanini met yesterday with Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad.

The meeting at Sheikh Jaber's office focused on ways to strengthen media and tourism co-operation between the two countries.

The Sudanese minister also thanked Kuwait for its generous relief aid to his country during the recent flood disaster.

27 traffic accidents reported in Kuwait

THERE were 27 traffic accidents in Kuwait yesterday, according to an official source at Kuwait's Ministry of Interior.

Two men died at Fahheel area and Sixth Ring Road and one accident was reported in the capital, six in Hawalli, 11 in Al Ahmadi Governorate and nine in Al-Jahra Governorate, the source added.

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Some companies removed, others added to blacklist

THE Israel Boycott Office of the Arab League has lifted the embargo on some foreign companies which have been dealing with Jews, imposed the partial or full embargo on others and banned the import of specific goods from certain countries.

A statement released yesterday by the Kuwait Office of the Boycott Commission said the American company Tenneco Inc. and its subsidiaries in the United States and Europe, the American company Davol Inc. and the British Davol International Ltd., the American company the Coca Cola Co. and the American Topy Inc., Qared Co., Monsanto Co. and Horizon Industries Inc., have been removed from the blacklist.

Struck off

Other companies removed from the blacklist include the three Canadian companies of Intalite International NV, Maple Leaf Mills Ltd. and Mathews Conveyor Company of Canada Ltd., the German companies Triumph International AG and Stena Baumgarten and Co., the British companies London City and Westcliff Properties Ltd. and its subsidiaries in Britain and Holland and City Swingers Ltd and the Austrian company

Radex Herakdith Industries AG.

Also struck off the blacklist were Laboratorio Maymo SA of Spain, Fujitsu Ltd of Japan, Cypriot Chocolate Viomichanik Indian Expo India or its name of Dye Chem Trading Co. and its subsidiaries, Ravi SPA of Italy, Greek John Iakounis, Maltese John Bezzina and Sones Ltd and Houston Well Screen International of Singapore and its present name of Houston Well Screen (Asia) Pte Ltd.

Partial

The release said that the Boycott Office has decided to lift the partial embargo on the Cypriot companies of Kosmos Trading Ltd, Vasoil Company Ltd, Iacovo Photiadis Foodstuff Suppliers Ltd, Heat Air Con Ltd, Nesaco Engineers Ltd, Dassa Imports-Exports Distributors and Geopet Aluminium Ltd.

The Indian company of Greaves Semiconductors Ltd and its twin Indian company of Greaves Cotton and Co Ltd, Eusebio Gonzalez Cia SA of Spain, the Dutch company Ravas BV and Belgium Scala Plastics NV and its Belgium subsidiary Kado NV have also been removed from partial embargo. However, a number of com-

panies have been placed on the blacklist including the British Publishing House of George Weidenfeld and Nicolson Ltd, the Kenyan Pan Africa Co, the French KIS France and its subsidiaries, the Malaysian Holiday Villages of Malaysia, Lemaitre Industries SPA of Italy, the Cypriot Paporis Michael Import-Export Agencies and the Greek Dimitria Enterprises Ltd and Cosmo Ltd.

Embargo

The embargo included the four American companies of Paramount Cards Inc, American Cystoscope Makers Inc, Turbine Services Ltd and the National Political Action Committee, the five Canadian companies of Atlantic Packaging Products Ltd, the Dominion Trust Co, IWS Ferrous Ltd and Almar Industries Inc and Westchester Sports-wear Inc and the four Spanish companies of Ramta SA, Tadiran SA, Lindel Espana SA and Union de Explosivos Rio Tinto.

Tache Cie SA and Pegrid Products of Belgium and Quality Chemical Industries and Britania Industries Ltd, which is 40 per cent owned by American Nabisco Brands Ltd, have also been blacklisted.

EVENTS

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15-16, 1988

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
DAILY: 5 pm onwards: natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Friday: 9 am onwards.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT — THURS: 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Tareq Rajab Museum
SAT — THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; FRIDAYS: 9 am to noon. Collection of Islamic art, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House
SAT — THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

CINEMA

Children's Film
SEPT 15: British Council, Mansouriyah, 10.30 am: children's film "Alas the Jester". Children of all nationalities welcome. Free admission but advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 251-5512; 2533204.

THEATRE

KLT
SEPT 20/21: KLT, Ahmadi, 7.30 pm. Auditions for pantomime Jack and Beanstalk. Those interested can audition the theatre in Ahmadi. The group needs volunteers for backstage help.

Konkani Drama
OCT 7: IAC, Funtaites, 4 pm: Konkani drama entitled "Xim Vo Ximter?", featuring the Mendes Brothers. Entry passes available at Raja Stores.

MUSIC

Sounds Great
SEPT 15, 3 pm/Sept. 16, 11 am/Sept. 17, 7.30 pm: Universal American School, Salwa. Audition for singers, dancers and musicians for the next Sounds Great Show, scheduled to be held at the Salwa, from Oct 19-22. For details ring Ken Winston or Adolph 5740256/7 or 5758870.

Kuwait Singers
SEPT 18: Kuwait Singers start rehearsals for their winter concert on Sunday, 7.30 pm, and not Monday, at the Sunshine School, Salwa. New members particularly welcome.

Indian Ballet
SEPT 22: 7.00 pm, at IAC, Funtaites: Narthana, a dance troupe led by Mohiniyattam exponent Mrs. Prameela Sundran, will stage a ballet, Panchavadi, and Nrithaslipas at its annual show, Nrithaslipas. Admission will be strictly limited; for free passes, call 4337608.

Ahmedi Music Society
SEPT 24: 7.30 pm, KLT, Ahmadi. Rehearsals commence for the Society's annual concert. Scheduled to be held on Dec 11, 12 and 13. Newcomers are welcome. For details Tel: 391-2384; 398-3964; 390-1782.

Country Western Musical
SEPT 27: Gala Night of KLT and ACT's annual Country Western Musical 7.30 pm at KLT, Ahmadi.

SEPT 28 and 29, night shows, 8 pm.
SEPT 30: marquee at 5 pm.
For bookings call 5727558; 5712033; 5620332.

East meets West
OCT 6: IAC, 6.30 pm: "East meets West", a musical evening by The Fams. Hindi, Punjabi, Malayalam, Tamil, Konkani, Bengali, Arabic and Western music. Lead vocalist: Susan Rego. For entry by passes Tel: 2409250; 4743948 or IAC — 3904817.



Rehearsals are in full swing for the Indian ballet show on Sept 22 at IAC. The classical dance group Narthana will present Panchavadi, a musical drama, and Nrithaslipas. Above: some dancers rehearsing for the show.

Beet Show

OCT 14: IAC, 3.30 pm: Kuwait Goan Beat Show: four hours of non-stop music featuring six brass bands — City Limits, 5th Dimensions, Perfect Stranger, Stepping Stones, Next of Kin and Top Ranks. Organised by the Kuwait Goans.

Guitar Recital

OCT 19: German guitarist and composer Wolfgang Condin will give a recital at the Kuwait Hilton. "Hymns of Eternity", one of Condin's most significant compositions will be featured in his concert along with works by J.S. Bach and H. Villa-Lobos. Tickets are available from the Hilton lobby.

SOCIAL

Open Day
SEPT 15: 9 am to 1 pm, Steps Studio. Introduction to children's dance activities at the Studio. Children and parents welcome. For details phone 574-7313.

Kuwait Players

Poolside BBQ
SEPT 21: Messilah Beach Hotel, 8 pm: Kuwait Players poolside BBQ. All prospective members and newcomers to Kuwait are welcome. Tickets — KD2 per person. For reservations Tel: 394-1572.

Varca Sporting Centre
SEPT 22: SAS Hotel's Tent, 8 pm: Varca Sporting Centre's third annual social evening. Music by Top Ranks and Stepping Stones. Highlights: Beauty Queen contest, ideal couple contest, fancy dress, games and bingo. For reservations and details contact Marjorie 1443-2800, Albert 281-0461, or James 5331940.

Contact
SEPT 24, SAS Hotel, 10.30 am: Contact Ladies Information Group meeting. Newcomers to Kuwait are particularly welcome. For details phone 487-4513 or 5388705.

Sounds Great Party
SEPT 29: Messilah Beach Hotel, 8 pm: Sounds Great group's "Welcome Back/Welcome to Kuwait" dance party. Music by Top Ranks and Juke Box band. Twist competition, and novelty prizes. For reservations and further details ring Ken Winston or Adolph 5740256/7 or 5758870. Newcomers to Kuwait are particularly welcome.

D'Assisi Association
OCT 7: Holy Family Cathedral, 8 am: D'Assisi Association's 8th annual thanksgiving mass. All ex-students are welcome. For details phone Augustin — 574-6754 after 6 pm or Henry — 3291909 (am).
Goan Fiesta 88

OCT 13: Messilah Beach Hotel, Habiba Ballroom: Goan Fiesta 88 to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Young Goan Association. Music by the Stepping Stones and Hurricane Alley. For details Tel: 481-3740.

Nite Flight '88
NOV 10: SAS Hotel, Tent: Airlines staff in association with SAS, Kuwait. Music by Top Brassbands. Highlights include beauty contest, games and other games. For details phone Gregory — 473-3718; Marshall 471-6721.

HOTELS

At Messilah Beach
MUBARAKIYAH RESTAURANT: open 24 hours, buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks. Sundays: Ladies Day; Mondays: birthday special; Fridays: special buffet "a go go".

At the Holiday Inn
AL AHMADI COFFEE SHOP: international buffet meals at lunch and dinner from 6 am to 1 am; a la carte also available.

VIENNESE CAFE: fresh pastries and cakes and other refreshments.

HANGING BABYLON GARDENS: an ideal place to relax with friends. Thursday: dine and dance at Al Andalus Night Club. Friday: fun 'n' surprises for children and parents at the weekly brunch, 11 am to 3 pm.

At the Sheraton
RICCARDO'S: Italian cuisine: music by Sienna's Duo. Closed for lunch on Fridays.

AL HAMBRA: Sundays: Lebanese cuisine; Wednesdays: seafood night; Friday's buffet brunch. Entertainment by Marwan. Band provide live entertainment.

LE TABOUCHE: daily lunch and dinner buffet featuring Arab cuisine. Thursdays: Arab world specialties; Fridays: buffet lunch and dinner.

COFFEE SHOP: international cuisine and daily specials; ideal for casual or business meeting.

At the Ramada
LE MIRAGE NIGHT CLUB: Thursday night BBQ; full buffet; music by Al Arzz Band.

AL BENDAR COFFEE SHOP: continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6 am to midnight; a la carte available.

GANDOUL GRILL GARDEN: 7 pm to midnight, features a selection of grilled specialties.

OPEN GARDEN: 7 pm to midnight: a selection of teas, coffees, and juices; Arguilla water pipe available; videos shown on large screen every day.

FISH AND CHIPS SHOP: 4 pm to 11 pm. Take away counter: 4 pm to 11 pm. Arabics sandwiches and snacks.

SPORTS

PBAK Inter-Comm.
Bowling League
Games scheduled this week: SEPT 15, 6.30 pm, 300 Club: Men's Division: (1) Hatid Ligaya vs Abughosa Intl.; (2) Al Nakib Al Qatar vs Al Qabadi; (3) Phil. Supreme vs Far East Rest.

SEPT 16, 1 pm (same venue): (1) Port Public Authority vs Magnolia Ice Cream; (2) 300 Club vs Kayne Asso. Inc.; (3) Al Gabandi vs Satellite Co.

SEPT 16, 9 am (same venue): Women's Division: (1) Boodai Aviation vs Far East Rest; (2) Magnolia Ice Cream vs Geds & Kayne Asso. Inc.

17th Winners Cup
cricket tournament
SEPT 16: YMCA's All Kuwait Open 17th Winners Cup cricket tournament. Starts this week and will continue on Fridays and holidays, Ahmadi Governorate Ground, behind the Computer Centre. Teams wishing to participate can contact Joe D'Sa, Tel: 3981790, 3-5 pm; 3924659, 5-8 pm.

Windsurfing Regatta
OCT 7: MBH Windsurfing Regatta. Open to men, women and teams. Entry forms available from Marine Centre (Tel: 5755960); Qabazard Marine (Tel: 5730442); Sultan Centres and Al Boom Marine (Tel: 4830570). For further details phone 5624111 ext 751/739.

Softball League
CALLING players — men and women — to join Kuwait International Softball League. Contact Steve Diemler — Tel: 531-5246 or Vic Mason — Tel: 5728931. Ladies wishing to join the Ladies League call Rita Diemler — Tel: 5315246.

Boy's Own Club
Oct. 22/23: Boy's Own Club will hold a seven-a-side one-day football festival on the holiday declared to mark the Prophet's birthday. Interested teams can contact Millagres 3967446 or Joe D'Souza 4813622.



Samia Al Ali stars in Friday's Arabic serial, 10.30 pm, KTV 1.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Shaab Pharmacy
Fahad Al Salem St.
Hawalli and Nugra
Al Saada Pharmacy
Othman St., Nugra
Salamiya and Rumaithiya
Al Markiziya Pharmacy
Asfoor Bldg., Omar Bin Aas St.
Fahadheel and Ahmadi
Al Wafa Pharmacy
Dabbous Palace, Dabbous St.
Khatian
Al Tawfiq Pharmacy
Rajah Commercial Centre, South St.
Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Co-op. Society

FRIDAY

Kuwait
Al Ameen Pharmacy
Bebbehani Bldg., Jaber Al Mubarak St.
Al Omar Pharmacy
Awkaf Bldg., Mubarak Al Kabir St.
Hawalli and Nugra
Al Kindi Pharmacy
Opp. Asian Olympic Council Bldg., Jabriya
Khatian
Khatian Pharmacy
Ibrahim Bin Adham St.
Salamiya and Rumaithiya
Al Nahda Pharmacy
Baghdad St.
Fahadheel and Ahmadi
Abu Halifa Pharmacy
Coastal Road
Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg., Matafi St.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Steel dawn
Starring: Patrick Swazi, Liza

Al Salamiya
Disorderlies
Starring: Ralph Bellamy, Anthony Gerard

Al Hamra
Action Jackson
Starring: Carol Wades

Drive-In
Surqah Nadam (Arabic)
Starring: Nadia Lutfi, Mahmood Yassin

Fahadheel Open-Air
Saazish (Hindi)
Starring: Raj Kumar, Raj Babbar

Al Fahadheel
Raj Dulari (Hindi)

Al Firdous
Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak (Hindi)
Starring: Juhi Chawla, Aamir Khan

Al Jahra
Al Ab Al Sharayi (Arabic)

Granada
Les Battants (French)

Sulaibikhat
Ezutha (Malayalam)

Al Jleeb
Loafer (Hindi)

Ahmedi Drive-In
Al Kamasha (Arabic)

FRIDAY
Al Jahra
Manhunt

Granada
Mardon Wali Baat (Hindi)

Sulaibikhat
Ninja Warrior

Al Jleeb
Nastik (Hindi)

PRAYERS

Fajr 4.13 am
Zuhr 11.43
Asr 3.13 pm
Maghreb 5.52
Isha 7.10

FRIDAY
Fajr 4.14 am
Friday Prayer 11.43
Asr 3.12 pm
Maghreb 5.51
Isha 7.09

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TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Good Morning
9.30 Hikayat Al Alamiya: Stories from Around the World.
10.05 Al Bustan: Arabic play, featuring Majed Sultan, Abdul Nasser Al Zaer.
11.00 News Summary followed by songs and music.
11.20 Al Islam Wal Insan: religious programme.
12.00 Short Stories: "Al Laila Al Ula." Starring: Abdul Hadi Anwar, Jamal Zaghoul, Jilan Kamal, Fatima Faed.

12.30 Magic Show
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.40 Fawazir Munasabat
2.15 Al Mawzanah: Arabic play, featuring Hina Mohammad, Bahjat Jabbouri, Fawzia Hassan.

3.35 Heidi: cartoons
4.15 The Saint: featuring Roger Moore
5.00 Liqa Al Khamis: weekly roundup of local events
7.45 Documentary
8.30 Ma'a Islam: With Islam
9.00 News in Arabic
10.00 Ala Kaff: Arabic feature film, starring Farid Shawki, Athar Al Hakim, Farouk Fishawi, Madiha Yusra.

11.45 Thursday Night Variety Show
12.45 Aghniya Mukhtara: variety show
1.30 News Summary

1.35 World News via Satellite/Holy Quran/closedown

FRIDAY

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Cartoons
9.30 Early Morning Music
10.00 Robin Hood: cartoon serial
10.45 Al Kalimah Tayyibah: religious programme
11.15 Friday Prayer
12.25 Min Wahi Al Ayat Al Bayyanat: religious talk

1.35 Interval
2.00 Summer '88
2.15 Hadith Deeni: weekly religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwalli Sharawi

3.00 Adat Se Majboor: Hindi feature film.
5.45 Cartoons
7.00 Kuwait in a Week
7.30 Islamic Art in Morocco, prepared and presented by Adnan Al Ramhi.

8.15 KTV Programmes' Preview
8.45 Hadith Al Usbooh: weekly talk on Islam

9.00 News in Arabic
9.50 Wrestling
10.50 Al Jaliyat: Arabic play, featuring Samia Al Ali, Nabil Al Halafawi, Mahmoud Abu Zaid. Comedy.
12.00 News Summary, followed by Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

5.00 Holy Quran
5.05 Cartoons
5.25 Local football: Live broadcast of Al Arabi & Kuwait vs

Fanaja & Oman. Full House: "Return of Grandma". The family try to tidy their house in honour of grandma's arrival...

8.00 News in English
8.40 High Mountain Rangers: "The Ordeal." Code is convinced by his mother to live in a city... but unexpected events force him to reverse his decision.

9.30 I Married Doru: "Westcoast Story." Doru is asked to organise a charity gala.

10.00 The Hit Squad: laughs, fun and sneaky hidden camera backfire on the hit squad

10.30 Late Night Movie: "Laguna Heat." Starring: Mary Hamlin, Jason Robards.

12.00 News Summary: Magazine d'Actualite/Closedown.

FRIDAY

2.00 Holy Quran
2.10 Cartoons
2.30 Sports Studio
6.00 Foo Fur: cartoons
6.30 Bay City Rollers Show: songs, music and a short story for children

7.00 Walt Disney Film: "Charlie, the Lovesome Cougar." The story of a cougar and a hunter.

8.00 News in English
8.30 Summer '88
8.40 The Twilight Zone: three stories about unusual events and accidents

9.30 227: "The Audit." Mary Jenkins and her husband face trouble for tax evasion.

10.00 Spectacular World of Guinness Records: David Frost presents the smallest jet plane; largest family gathering; a 17-year-old rodeo champion and a shepherd who sets a record in shearing wool.

10.30 Tour of Duty: "Roadrunner." Goldman's team is told to raid a Vietnamese village.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine d'Actualite/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.



Mary (Maria Gibbs) and Lester (Hal Williams) face tax collectors in Friday's episode of 227, 10 pm on KTV 2.

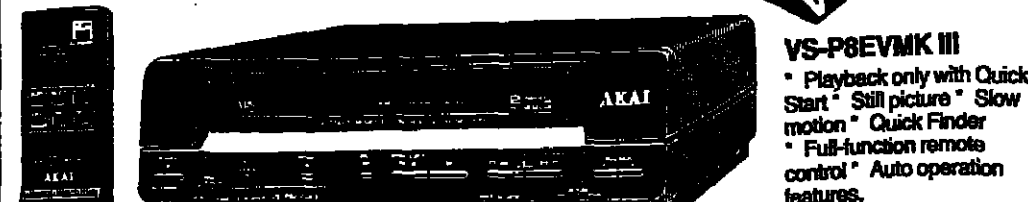
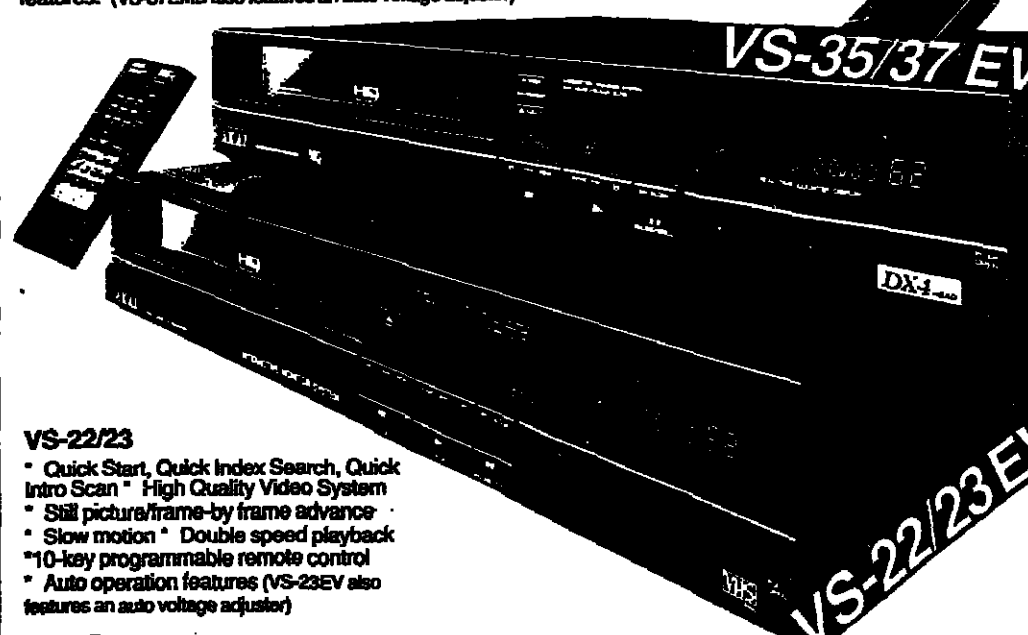
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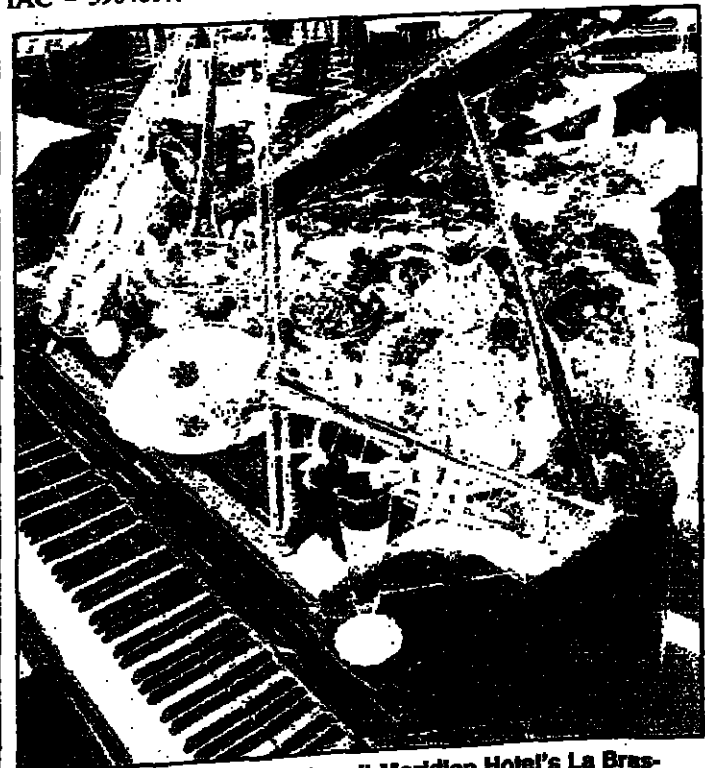
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

WE must beware of trying to build a society in which nobody counts for anything except a politician or an official — Sir Winston Churchill, British statesman (1874-1965).

OPINION

Be generous with Kuwait Stock Market

THE Kuwaiti government recently invested in many sectors of activity both locally and abroad.

One billion pounds were paid for British Petroleum Co. shares. The government also made huge investments in the Spanish Stock Market.

In the local market, the government allocated KD600 million for expropriating real estate in the next five years. Another KD50 million has been allocated towards developing the agricultural sector. The result of this infusion of capital has been an increase in the prices of real estate.

This scenario is not reflected in the prices of shares and bonds in the local stock market which still suffers from the ill-effects of laws not allowing prices of shares to increase for fear of another Manakh crisis.

The Manakh crisis, which occurred six years ago, could have been averted were it not for wrong implementation of rules and subsequent solutions — in which investors had no say.

According to statistics, only 15 per cent of the shares of companies are offered for trading at the stock market. The rest are owned by the government, mortgaged with local banks, or owned by individuals who purchased when prices were high. Others are long-term investment portfolios — usually not affected by increase or decrease in prices.

The government can easily deal with the Stock Market in a very flexible way by improving trading laws either in relation to the price unit or quantity traded. In addition, any amount, however small, the government invests on a long-term basis in the stock market will certainly contribute to a healthy and vibrant market.

The government could simply use part of its profits from the British Petroleum or Spanish investments to purchase local shares to be held as a long-term portfolio. A small infusion of funds in the stock market — even smaller than that allocated for agriculture — will certainly go a long way in contributing towards improving stock market conditions and would help increase the value of assets, reflecting positively on increased mortgages.

Such a backdrop would in no small measure contribute towards better economic performance after the ill-effects of long years of war.

The government has been generous with foreign financial markets, generous with the agricultural sector and with other sectors.

We now call upon the government to extend this same generosity to the stock market — either by improving its performance and flexibility or entering as an investor — even with a small amount of money.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Canada embarks on naval modernisation

By David R. Francis

OTTAWA: Canada is moving forward with a major programme of naval modernisation.

Rear Adm. John Anderson is to give Canadian Defence Minister Perrin Beatty an evaluation of competing British and French designs for a fleet of 10 or 12 nuclear-powered submarines, expected to cost Canadian \$8 billion (US\$6.6 billion).

The subs, it is hoped, would deter Soviet subs from poking about the Canadian Arctic or using the region for launching missiles in the event of hostilities.

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's cabinet approves the admiral's choice, it will be Canada's largest defence contract ever — though expenditures will be spread over 26 years.

Beatty announced that the government will also spend Canadian \$750 million (US\$621 million) to build 12 minesweepers. When delivered, starting in 1992, they will provide Canada with its only capability for neutralising mines that could shut down its ports.

Pony

With oceans to the west, north, and east, Canada has the longest coastline in the world. But its Navy has been relatively puny. It consists of 20 frigates or destroyers, three diesel-powered submarines, three replenishment ships, 18 Aurora long-range patrol aircraft, 18 Tracker medium-range patrol aircraft, 35 Sea King helicopters, and 31 training vessels.

"Next to other NATO forces, it (the Canadian Navy) is very poor," says Joel Sokolsky, a professor at the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario.

"There are only four ships worth anything... four Tribal-class destroyers. Most of the fleet is at least 30 years old."

Operating out of three bases, this small Navy has a primary goal of protecting NATO sea links between North America and Europe, chiefly as an anti-submarine force. It has a secondary job of guarding Canada's Atlantic and Pacific shores in

conjunction with American naval forces. The third role — asserting Canadian sovereignty in the frozen Arctic waters of the North — has been rated a "mission impossible" so far. The nuclear subs with their under-ice capability would step into that gap, though they will spend most of their time in the Atlantic and Pacific.

Admiral Anderson, chief of the submarine acquisition programme, says his group has completed negotiations with the British and French competitors on the terms and conditions for a memorandum of understanding.

But with an election possible in the autumn, there is some question as to whether the Cabinet will want to make the controversial decision before or after the election. Both opposition parties, the Liberals and the left-centre New Democratic Party, agree on the need for naval modernisation after decades of neglect. But both would rather see the government buy four to six conventional-powered submarines and another six new frigates in addition to the 12 already planned.

Professor Sokolsky maintains that the Defence Department will get more for its money with the nuclear submarines than from the fleet additions urged by the opposition. The nuclear-powered subs not only can travel under the Arctic ice, he says; they have a greater range than the frigates or diesel-electric subs.

However, Progressive Conservative backbenchers from the House of Commons are finding that the nuclear-powered subs are not popular among their constituents. Some members say they would rather see the decision delayed until after an election.

Worried by the weakness of the programme in the public's eye, a group of 18 businessmen (some of whom stand to win business from the sub programme) and defence experts (including Sokolsky) announced on July 12 the formation of a Committee for a Sovereign and Effective Naval Defence.

The Christian Science Monitor news Service.

Speculative story

SIR: This refers to the story published in the Arab Times on Sept 12, under the heading, "Pakistan Army deeply divided: wreckage of Zia's plane sent secretly to US."

The story is speculative and tends to distort facts relating to Pakistan-US relations.

The story, based on remarks made by anonymous US officials, lacks credibility, hence no significance could be attached to it. Pakistan and the United States enjoy friendly relations and have similar views on many international and regional issues.

Recently, the US Senate, in a unanimous resolution, described late President Zia-ul-Haq as a true friend of the US who had undertaken a leading role in promoting regional stability.

Reports of division within the Pakistan Army are also

speculative and incorrect. The Pakistani armed forces have recently demonstrated their unity by supporting the constitutional process in Pakistan. This itself rebuts such rumours.

The attribution of the Jharkhand Camp disaster to some generals of the Pakistan Army by unnamed US officials is mischievous and a travesty of truth. The former President who was also chief of Army staff and a multitude of Army personnel supervised relief work to mitigate the effects of the disaster and many soldiers lost their lives in trying to control the fire at the ammunition dump.

Wild accusations by unnamed US officials lack any credibility and are contemptible.

Syed Iqbal Hussain, Press & Cultural Attaché, Pakistan Embassy, Kuwait.

Lasting solution to floods needed

SIR: We the Bangladeshis are very unfortunate to have killer floods almost every year. No one knows whether a house built today will survive during the next monsoon season.

Hundreds of human lives along with thousands of cattle are lost. Billions of dollars worth of food, raw materials, building, etc. are washed away each time.

The life after the flood is even worse. Nothing remains normal — the going gets tough. Government begs around the world for financial support, and rich, developed and friendly countries are always kind enough to help. But how long should this continue?

Now the time has come to think whether we should ask only for financial support to cope with floods or financial support and technical assistance to protect Bangladesh from floods.

Prabhu Mendonca, Safat.

Run buses on schedule

SIR: Buses are the main form of transportation for those who do not possess a driving licence. Kuwait Public Transport Company provides bus service which frequently turns out to be useless as buses get late.

Passengers are kept waiting in bad weather at bus stops and when the bus actually arrives after a long delay, it is crowded and does not stop. Passengers have to wait again and get late for work.

People are thus forced to ride taxis and vans and have to pay through their nose.

We urge the KPTC to run its buses on schedule.

Prabhu Mendonca, Safat.

Mismanaged 'September Ball'

SIR: I regret very much having taken my fiancée to the YMCA's "Come September Ball" at the Sheraton Hotel on Sept 1.

The ballroom was packed to capacity mostly with garishly dressed young men who kept loitering around the hall, joking and behaving as though they were out on a picnic.

The moment the music started, these youngsters invaded the stage and gave a rock performance with some of their colleagues blissfully swaying on their shoulders. The organisers, unfortunately, did not know the meaning of the word "ball", and had probably picked up the name from some function they might have attended.

We wanted to walk away but waited to see the "Queen of Queens" contest where we expected to see the Summer Queen, the May Queen, Summer Belle and the other queens crowned earlier this year. They were nowhere to be seen and hence the title was meaningless.

The contest started well but was ruined by the master of ceremonies. With his odd sense of humour he embarrassed the participants. None of the ladies on my list figured in the last three — beauty as they say lies in the eye of the beholder.

Halfway through the night, dinner was served but food was not enough to go around and it was pathetic to see the MC apologising on behalf of the organisers to the guests, who did not get food but paid KD6 each for the evening's delights.

I have attended many enjoyable Goan functions in the past and in particular would like to mention the Weekend Club's Summer Affair at the Regency.

The YMCA made no bones about the fact that they were out to make a fast buck. I do not care what they do with the

money but I could have ruined a beautiful relationship with the girl I love.

Arthur H. Beyerlian, Safat.

Uniforms unavailable

SIR: This refers to Indian School's decision to change the uniforms of students.

If the purpose is to have uniformity then it would have been wiser to enforce the wearing of previous uniforms and punishing those who failed to do so.

Most of the shops in Kuwait do not have the new uniforms and only a microscopic minority managed to have them either by stitching themselves or by obtaining from elsewhere.

At present it is a mixture of old and new uniforms at the school. Searching for new uniforms is a waste of time and money for parents. Airtime change uniforms quite often to look attractive, but for school children fashion is not the factor.

Instead of changing the uniforms, school authorities should create a healthy atmosphere inside the school premises by keeping classrooms, courtyard and toilets neat and tidy.

K.K. Philip, Safat.

Shed is necessary

SIR: The students of the Indian School (Abbasiya branch) have to wait for their buses under the sun.

The school authorities should do something to protect the small children from the sun's heat. A small shed and a water cooler is quite necessary to alleviate their suffering.

Few parents, (Names and addresses supplied).

'Helpful conman'

SIR: I have read the letters appearing in Arab Times about Indian English and how Indians, intelligently misuse the English language to make a living. I do not think it should insult Indians in general.

When I made further inquiries, I found that "Varkey visa" is a kind of visa, arranged by Indians, especially Keralites. Quite a number of Indians have reached Kuwait by this type of visa and have achieved remarkable positions. Even if he charges heavily, once the recruit reaches the Kuwaiti shore, job is guaranteed. Even if the salary is KD 19 instead of KD 90, it is paid promptly.

In a way, the recruiting agent is providing an excellent service to the community, and that is why his fellowmen say even though he is a conman, he is helpful.

So stop criticising him. Let his service continue uninterrupted. Please do not consider I am doing commercials for him.

An AT reader, (Name and address supplied).

Visa racket

SIR: This refers to the letter "Let us be honest," (AT, Aug 25-26) which shows how people cheat by turning working visa into Varkey visa and 19 into 90.

Many such Varkeys exist here, who exploit the poor and needy. Hundreds of such Varkey visas are sold and many are cheated by 19 instead of 90. The recruiting agents continue to make good use of the "elasticity of English language" for filling their coffers.

However, I bring to your attention that if any Indian is cheated by another Indian, in visa racket, all he has to do is file a suit before any magistrate/court, so that sooner or later the "impostor" will be



imprisoned. So let all those who have been cheated, and paid money in India or elsewhere, contact the magistrate, court with evidence, so that there would be no more Varkey visas or 19s out of 90s. A jail term will certainly help Varkeys to improve their English language.

A reader, (Name and address supplied).

Ladies stripped

SIR: Recently my wife arrived from India and went for medical checkup at a Fahaheel clinic according to the rules. On the pretext of having skin test, my wife and other Sri Lankan ladies were asked to strip completely before a male doctor and when they objected they were threatened by the doctor and nurse.

We are Muslims and Islam is against compelling and harassing people unnecessarily. Females should be treated with respect. Female doctors should examine females in all hospitals and clinics.

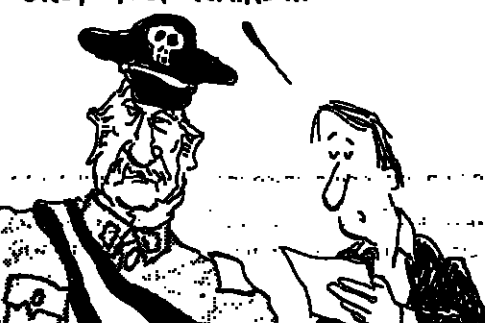
I request the Ministry of Health to look into this matter. Nandan Bashe, Fahaheel.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

I AM RETURNING DEMOCRACY TO CHILE



BUT GENERAL, THIS BALLOT SHOWS ONLY YOUR NAME...



...AND THE WORDS "YES" AND "NO"



VOTE "YES" IF YOU WANT TO KEEP DEMOCRACY



Indonesia under pressure to reduce troops in East Timor

By Oei Eng Goan

DILI, East Timor, (Reuters): Indonesia is under mounting pressure to reduce troop levels and ease restrictions in the remote and disputed territory of East Timor.

Thirteen years after Indonesia invaded the former Portuguese colony, which lies on a strategic sea route between Australia and the giant South Pacific island of New Guinea, Indonesia is accused of denying East Timorese human rights.

East Timor is still under debate at the United Nations,

which formally recognises Lisbon's sovereignty over the rugged and hilly territory, where a band of determined resistance fighters are holding out against Indonesian troops.

Opposition

Indonesia, along with Nicaragua, was a formal candidate to become chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement for the 1989-92 term. But both countries failed to win enough support at the movement's meeting which ended in Cyprus this week, and Yugoslavia was chosen.

Diplomats in Cyprus said Indonesia ran into opposition

over its takeover of East Timor.

Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim country, has repeatedly denied allegations of human rights abuse in East Timor, which has a population of 647,000, nearly 90 per cent of whom are Catholics.

A four-member team from the European Parliament, which visited East Timor last month, recommended in a draft report that Indonesia should withdraw most of its troops, and an international committee be established to broker a settlement.

Their report said Indonesia should end restrictions on movement in East Timor and open up the economy to outside investment.

Jakarta has some 14,000 troops in the territory battling a poorly equipped but elusive group of 500 to 1,000 guerrillas holed up in the eastern part of the island.

Defence Minister Benny Murdani said last December it would be several more years before the band of jungle fighters was completely subdued.

East Timor's popular governor, Mario Viegas Carrascalao, who led one of the movements against Portuguese rule, said it was time for Jakarta to stop treating East Timorese "like someone in a golden jail."

Restrictions

He told foreign journalists who recently visited the province that Jakarta should end the resented restrictions on travel within and to the province.

Indonesians from other provinces who want to visit must get a pass from the military. East Timorese wishing to travel outside their districts are also restricted. "The Timorese people feel unhappy with the situation," Carrascalao said.

Population control in Bangladesh

Ershad's strong approach comes under fire

By Mary Kay Magistad

DHAKA, Bangladesh: Not everyone applauded when Bangladesh President Hussain Muhammad Ershad received the fifth United Nations Population Award last year.

Ershad, who was commended by the UN for "strong personal leadership" in reducing his country's birthrate, has come under fire in recent months for being too strong in his government's approach to population control.

Groups both inside and outside Bangladesh are charging that the safety of women, their right to free choice, and sometimes even their lives, are being sacrificed to a birth control programme that puts national reduction quotas ahead of all else.

By 1997, the government hopes to bring down Bangladesh's annual population growth from the current 2.6 per cent to 1.8 per cent. This effort is encouraged by such donors as the United States Agency for International Development (AID) and the World Bank. Together they contribute much of the \$270 million that will be spent on the five-year population control plan, begun in 1985.

The government's main strategy to achieve this goal is to offer incentives of food, cash, and saris to poor women if they will agree to be sterilised — and to give similar cash incentives to government "health workers."

for "persuading women" to be sterilised. Doctors are also paid bonuses for each sterilisation.

According to critics of this strategy, especially women's groups, many of these "health workers" are not trained in health care. Many are hired for their powers of persuasion.

Although this "gun-ho" approach to population control has succeeded in reducing the birth rate — from 43 births per 1,000 people in 1980 to 32 per 1,000 in 1985 — critics say the method is at least tacitly coercive and does not give women free choice.

"When you offer a poor woman a new sari, when you offer her extra rice, when you offer her 100 takes (about \$1.90), it is a pressure, and voluntary decisions become difficult," says Zafulla Chowdhury, a Bangladeshi physician who, in the early '70s, helped introduce sterilisation as a family-planning option here.

Dr Chowdhury says, "It is mainly because of pressure from the donor countries — especially the US — that the government pursues this programme."

A Dhaka-based women's group, Naripoko (meaning "for women" in Bengali), recently launched a campaign calling on the government to make the family-planning programme safer and more voluntary, and to drop incentives and quotas.

"We're really concerned with the lack of emphasis on safety in

the government programme," says Shureen Haq, a member of the group. "Money and incentives are being used to spend in improving health care for women who choose to be sterilised. Now, the government seems to think a form of birth control is 'safe' if it's effective — in other words, that the woman definitely won't get pregnant. In that sense, sterilisation is considered 'safest.' But we're talking about real safety — about not jeopardising women's lives for the sake of reaching a quota."

Naripoko first became embroiled in the population control issue more than a year ago after learning about a poor urban woman's death following a sterilisation operation. The woman did not receive a set of tetanus shots, which are usually given 21 days apart. The shots are considered necessary prior to such operations because villages often do not have properly sterilised surgical instruments. Apparently, Naripoko workers say, the health workers thought they would lose the recruit as part of their quota if they waited.

Naripoko representatives say women should be fully informed of all their options before they are given irreversible operations. In many cases, other birth-control methods may be very effective and more appropriate. And they want male sterilisation to be encouraged more.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

Dukakis campaign stumbles

By Laurence McQuillan

BOSTON, (Reuters): Michael Dukakis, who portrays himself as a meticulous manager,

approached the final drive for the White House with a campaign suddenly plagued by message problems, logistical confusion and a general sense of things going wrong.

The Democratic candidate, whose well-groomed personal appearance reflects the orderly style usually surrounding him, had few things going right in the first full week of September.

"This was a bad week to run for president," said a frustrated campaign aide.

Problem

The week-long woes began on Monday when noisy hecklers and a faulty sound system prevented Dukakis from being heard in Philadelphia.

A day later, fights between anti-abortion protesters and Dukakis partisans disrupted a second rally.

Aircraft problems plagued the campaign all week with one trip cancelled because of a surprise safety inspection by federal authorities and another delayed for

90 minutes because the chartered aircraft was too heavily loaded to take off.

That problem was solved by leaving behind luggage and some campaign staff. But there was nothing that could be done about the hurricane that forced cancellation of a rally in New Orleans the same day.

The problems seemed characteristic of a campaign that has nosedived from a 17-point lead in opinion polls at the start of August to a deficit of five points or more with eight weeks to go before the Nov 8 election match with Republican George Bush.

Critics say the campaign needs to tighten up fast, developing a coherent message and a sensible travel schedule instead of the one that often has the candidate flying more than 3,000 miles (nearly 5,000 km) for a single appearance and then turning around to go home.

Trouble

"You have to see rhyme and reason to a presidential campaign," one Democratic strategist who declined to be named told Reuters. "I'm not sure you always see that with Dukakis."

Experts presume the logistical problems will be worked out, but

they warn that Dukakis' bid will be in serious trouble unless he gets off the defensive and seizes control of his campaign agenda.

"You can't change a guy's style," Democratic strategist Robert Beckel said of Dukakis' often stern demeanour. "But there's not enough rhythm in what he's saying."

Dukakis has been largely forced into a defensive mode, responding almost daily to one Bush charge or another. Bush has been on the attack, one day bailing his rival for vetoing a measure that would have required teachers to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, the next day laying out his own environmental policies.

Perhaps the most telling event was Bush's dash into his rival's backyard to bemoan the Massachusetts governor's failure to clean up the badly polluted Boston harbour.

"The (Dukakis) campaign simply isn't sharp," said Brookings Institution analyst Stephen Hess.

"How come Bush was allowed to pre-empt the environmental issue? That should be Dukakis' issue," Hess said of a topic issue that has traditionally won votes for the Democrats.

CINE ROUND-UP FROM BOMBAY

by Firoze Rangoonwalla

Special to the Arab Times

Ill-judged remarks betray narrow minds

When stars talk ... sparks fly

BOMBAY'S filmstars are well-known for shooting off all kinds of remarks, opinions, comments and even attacks on others in the industry. Their ill-judged remarks are published and quoted as if they were pearls of wisdom, though behind their backs people laugh at the limited knowledge and narrow perspective of these popular stars. The most they can talk about is their own small world of cinema and its rivalry, envy, mutual condemnation and of course the blah blah about their own roles.

And the stars don't seem to realise that their own words boomerang against them. Many times they are compelled to deny, withdraw or eat their own words. Often, what they have been quoted as saying some months ago turns out to be completely false in the light of what they actually do. Nevertheless, all these conflicts make interesting fare for the observers who are attached to the cinema. So the best thing is to take star quotes with a pinch of salt and keep our own comments reserved.

For example, the new face Sonam recently went full blast against the makers of Aakhi Adalat. "These Mehra don't know how to make films. Director Rajiv Mehra is a confused man. He could not even plan what he wanted in the film. Otherwise why should they cut out so many of my scenes after shooting them?"

In retaliation as well as in his defence, family chief F.C. Mehra said: "Sonam is no actress at all. It was very difficult to make her act. We never wanted to take her. She kept on

calling and pestering us to include her in the cast."

All this is not good publicity for an actress whose first two films have just been released and who has been accepted more for her scanty clothes than talent. She may scare off other producers if the wrong word spreads about her.

At the other extreme is Asha Sachdev, the old war-horse who has failed in films as well as in politics. For once, she sounded honest when she said: "My laughter is the saddest part of me. After so many years my tears have dried and turned into loud laughs."

Arrow Dimple has been very inspired by her so-called women's lib films such as Zakhmi Anar and Mera Shikhar or perhaps it is a shrewd way of promoting her films. These days she is talking like a champion of women's rights. "Men must not just dominate and get away. They must accept responsibility. They should respect the feelings of women. We have been oppressed a lot. I don't claim to be a leader. And in a country where people die of hunger, it is a silly drama to go on hunger strikes."

This last barb was obviously directed at Shabana Azmi, who goes on hunger strikes for the sake of hut dwellers but lives in

two luxury houses and makes trips to London and other cities for better health and fun.

Currently Shabana is keeping a low profile about her public life, as she has not much of a career left to speak of. But leave it to Shatrughan Sinha to make bombastic statements: "I don't belong to any political party. I am neither for the government nor for the opposition. I only belong to the public and nobody else but the public."

On the other hand Shatrug also uses his clever humour to ward off awkward questions as to why he is acting in nearly fifty films at the moment. He says: "Look, I am an illiterate man. I can't count properly. Better ask the people who know."

Another actor who talks big is Rajnikant. About his daily routine his favourite line is: "I go all alone in a room in my house. There are mirrors all around. I keep admiring myself. I jump, dance and make karate poses. This is nothing abnormal." Well, all this practice has not done Rajnikant much good on the Hindi screen.

Pretends

Anupam Kher who is now being typecast as a villainous Mafia don or gangster says: "I have met many such people in real life and observed them. They are not like what we see in films in any way. They don't make faces and gestures, they don't laugh loudly and crudely. My character in Karma was loosely based on that of Charles Sobhraj. But films take a lot of liberties." Well, Anupam is at least frank in admitting that he cannot play his characters the way he wants. About his personal life too he is outspoken. "Both I and my wife Kiran have had previous partners. We married with an understanding to forget all that. Ah! But have their earlier loves forgotten as well."

Sri Devi always pretends to



Mithun: no comments on Sri Devi ... or else

present a picture of innocence and will answer all difficult questions. (Usually in the same words of her questioner). It is very common for stars to tell scribes: "Please you write out something for me in your flowery language." So the questions as well as the answers in most interviews are written by the journalists themselves on their desk-top. But Sri Devi often stumbles or gets stuck on any one high-sounding word and says: "Don't use all these big words. I am a simple girl. Ask me simple things." It only exposes her hypocrisy and the fact that most of her

interviews are actually fake. Consider what she said of "Nagina": "I am sure there was some supernatural spirit behind me when I was working in that film." Meenakshi Sheshadri on the other hand is supposed to be a bit more intelligent. But whenever an interview is published, she and her mother first look at the photographs to see if they have done her justice. If they don't like the photos, they also don't like the interview and the magazine. Still Meenakshi keeps making profound statements: "If an actress has to make a long-term impact, she must live by her talent. After she is gone she must be remembered as an artist for her roles and not as Number One or highest paid or most busy heroine." Perhaps, the grapes are sour for her.



Meenakshi (left), the so-called intellectual, has a chat with Sri Devi, the bird-brain.

Once Mithun used to talk

about his affair with Sri Devi and at one midnight party he even confessed a secret marriage with her. But now if anyone asks him anything about the Madras actress, he flares up and utters just two words: "No comment." He does that with so much venom that the questioner begins to see his old Naxalite (terrorist) image again. On the subject of politics, where he once actively supported a communal party, leading to riots, he now says: "It was all done for friendly relations. I have no intention to go into politics. I will keep miles away from it."

Similarly Vinod Khanna has sworn not to answer any questions about his estranged wife Geetanjali and children, and

whether they will return. He calls it "personal" and dismisses it. But if he is maligned for coming late, drinking on the sets, cancelling dates etc, Vinod puts up a very innocent noble front: "If I want to harass, why should I sign a film at all? Producers come to me every day with offers." And about Prakash Mehra criticising him for not being in Jadoogar with Amitabh, Vinod says: "The whole script had nothing but Amitabh and Amitabh, what was left for me to do? Prakash Mehra said he would change the script. But he did not seem honest about the whole project from the start." Now if Prakash Mehra is made to answer this, then violent sparks are sure to fly all around.

Behind the screen

the whole project. Otherwise the murders (corpses) would not be able to stand.

Producer Arjun Hingorani first tried to run a consultancy service for film producers. When that failed, he advertised widely that big manufacturing companies could include their commercial products in his new under-production film, Kaam Kare Kurban starring Dharmendra, Govinda, Anita Raj etc. He has promised that he will make the stars themselves praise the shampoo or scooter or TV set. Govinda has already started this trend by promoting

a washing powder in Tohfa Muhabbat Ka.

While performing a guest role in Gul Anand's Hero Hiralal, Amitabh was dressed in white. Then Gul wanted to tie a red scarf round his neck. To this Amit said: "Oh, now why are you trying to make people think that I am a communist?" Well, it figures, now that he is starring in Indo-Soviet co-production.

What does Hema Malini do on the side? Well nothing very sensational, but runs a preview theatre called Kadambari in Madras. It is always heavily booked. And she can have a steady income when there are no films in hand. But why in Madras? Well, it can remain private. And then, one can always settle down in one's own home town, finally.

Dimple had demanded Rs. eight lakhs for the role in Shabashah knowing that the tall one would collect a cool crore. But Meenakshi beat her to it by bidding for four lakhs and snatching the role. However it did



Amitabh Bachchan: leaning towards the left?

not do her any good, except making her look thoroughly foolish.



Firoze Khan with mystery girlfriend Jyotika, who is practically half his age.



Shabana Azmi: keeping a low profile



Sonam: accepts bouquets but gives brickbats



Anupam Kher: the real villains are not like me at all. In films we take a lot of liberties, he says.



Hema Malini: doing good business on the side

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

EXERCISE CAUSES BENEFICIAL CHANGES IN THE BLOOD

QUESTION: I've heard that your blood changes when you exercise. Is that right?

ANSWER: Regular exercise does cause several changes in your blood, but these are helpful ones. As you know, regular exercise reduces the risk of a heart attack by lowering blood pressure, lowering body fat and blood cholesterol levels and making the heart more efficient. The changes that occur to the blood also may have a role in helping protect the heart.

The major exercise-related changes in blood are a decrease in hemoglobin concentration, a decrease in platelet activity and an increase in fibrinolysis. These changes appear to reduce the risk of thrombosis, the formation of a clogging blood clot within a blood vessel. A heart attack is a blood clot within one of the arteries supplying the heart, so any reduction in the risk of thrombosis lessens the risk of heart attack.

While a decrease in the concentration of hemoglobin in athletes sounds like bad news, it is not due to a shortage of red blood cells, but to an increase in the amount, or volume, of blood plasma, the liquid portion

of blood. This increase in plasma volume is a good sign of aerobic fitness. Increased plasma volume makes blood less viscous, which may decrease the risk of thrombosis. Any reduction in oxygen-carrying capacity is offset by increased heart efficiency and sweating during exercise. The drop in hemoglobin concentration sometimes is called "athletes' anemia" or "pseudoanemia," but these are misnomers.

Regular exercise also appears to decrease the aggregation of platelets, the cells within blood that form clots. Platelet aggregation is the first step in the formation of a blood clot. Apparently, platelet aggregability decreased during rest to offset the slight increase in aggregability that occurs during strenuous exercise. This effect also may decrease the risk of thrombosis and may reduce the risk of heart attack.

The third way that exercise changes the blood is by activating fibrinolysis, the body's way of getting rid of old blood clots. This increase in fibrinolysis is greatest in those who exercise most, and so people who

are the most physically fit appear to dissolve clots faster than those who are less fit.

The key to all this is regular exercise, especially aerobic exercise such as running, cycling, brisk walking or aerobic dancing. The word "regular" cannot be stressed enough. To get the benefits of exercise, you must do it for at least a half an hour and at least three times a week.

I THOUGHT YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW: Its cause is probably not infectious, although the symptoms often mimic that of a bladder infection, and although theories about its origin include autoimmune disease, collagen disease or allergic manifestation, no one clearly understands the etiology of interstitial cystitis. Yet the symptoms of frequent, painful urination and hematuria (blood in the urine) can be disabling to the sufferers of this disease, often making work, marriage, pregnancy or even travel to a supermarket impossible. No single therapy has been found that is always effective.

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ANDY CAPP

By Smith



HUMOUR

Howzat? The ins and outs of cricket

WHEN the youngest of three cricketing brothers from Australia, Trevor Chappell, bowled the final ball of a limited over Test Match 'under arm' on instructions from his elder brother and skipper Greg, to Kiwi tailender Brian McKechnie at the Melbourne Cricket Ground the future it raised all over the cricket-playing world over 50 years ago in Australia, when the then British Empire, roused by the now historic 'body line' controversy, was nearly rent asunder.

Of the first incident newspaper reported, "Good sportsmanship was an honoured Australian trait ... but all that has, to use cricketing terms, been hit for six."

In the 1932-33 'body line' series, the Australian Test captain, W.M. Woodfull, one of those injured by Harold Larwood, angrily stormed into the English dressing room and said to team manager 'Plum' Warner, "There are two teams out there, and one of them's not playing cricket."

What is this game that was invented by group of shepherds in an English field several centuries ago? Is still going strong, even enriching the English language with expressions such as, "It's not cricket."

It's quite simple really. You have two sides — one out in the field and one in. Each man in the side that is in goes out, and when he's out he comes in, and the next man goes in until he is out. Then, when they have all been in and are all out, the side that has been in goes out and the side that has been out goes in, and the side that has been in goes out and tries to get out those coming in. Sometimes there are men still in and not out. Then, when both sides have been in and out, including not outs — and this happens twice over — that's the end of the game. It's that simple, although sometimes it has some people stumped!

The game of cricket, the earliest reference to which, according to Wisden — the cricketer's Bible — is recorded in the year 1300, when country boys bowled at and defended a tree stump, or the hurdle gate (wicket) into a sheepfold.

Yes, the all important thing about the game are the 'stumps' which are also called 'wickets'. Without them, there can be no cricket. When the two men in the middle, who wear white frock coats, and are called umpires, go out, they ceremoniously crown the stumps with a 'pair of balls' which have to go down before a batsman can be out.

There are many occasions when a batsman may be down, but not out, as for instance, when he throws himself down with his bat within the crease, and is given 'not out' by the umpire.

Love

Trevor Bailey, the famous English Test all-rounder, who is a BBC commentator, once, before the start of play on the opening day at Lord's said, "The umpires are going into the field and they are wearing brand new coats that make them look like doctors." And John Arlott, the well known BBC commentator, quickly replied, "And they might well be, Trevor. After all, one of their duties at the end of the day's play, is to draw stumps!"

The same John Arlott, whose



great love and knowledge of the game is legendary, once said, "Described with brilliant simplicity as 'casting a ball at three straight sticks and defending the same with a fourth,' yet cricket is arguably — indeed beyond reasonable question — the most profound of all ball games."

The bowled ball will not only swing and — there is a distinct technical difference — swerve, like a baseball, but, after landing on the pitch, it can 'break' — change direction under spin, or 'seam' — go off at an angle by bouncing on the seam.

Bowling is graded from slow, through slow-medium, medium and fast-medium to fast; left arm or right; round or over the wicket. The technical ramifications of batting — forward or back play, and range of strokes so vast as to defeat complete definition may be employed as a counter.

The fieldsmen may be set in a profusion of different posi-

tions; and the batsman may be out in ten different ways...

And indeed, the terminology of the game is so vast that it defies repetition. Think about 'bowling a maiden over' or being 'called' for being a 'chucker'. One classic instance of the latter was the Australian fast bowler Ian Meckiff. A batsman could succumb to a ball that goes 'straight through' and either 'disturbs his stumps' or has him 'leg before'. The bowler could bowl a 'googly' — described as an 'off-break delivered with a legbreak action' — and deceive the batsman with a delivery that 'goes the other way'.

Aerodynamics Recently, scientists have unravelled what could be called the 'aerodynamics of the cricket ball'. It reveals that the 'thickness of the seam plays a critical role in determining the ball's trajectory'.

In a damp and humid atmosphere, the ball 'swings' more

because the cotton threads in the seam absorb water, increasing the seam thickness.

A batsman may be bowled by a 'yorker' — a ball that goes under the bat before bouncing — or he may be caught out off a 'snick' or a 'tickle' — that's no laughing matter for him. If he scores a pair of 'ducks' in the same match, he is said to have 'bagged a pair' and if he has the misfortune of being so dismissed to the first delivery he has faced in each innings, he goes in the records as having got a 'king-size pair'.

He could be 'run out', 'leg before wicket', 'out handling the ball' and even 'obstructing the field', but there have been few recorded instances of the two latter.

Sophisticated fielding positions in the game range from 'silly leg' and 'silly point' to 'gully' and 'long leg' but to the dyed-in-the-wool cricket aficionado, these are very much part of his vocabulary. So he would understand if a 'no ball' went past a leg fielder for four 'leg byes'!

Cricket today counts players and enthusiasts from every Continent, but the unofficial world champions are the West Indies, whose approach to the game, which has been called 'Calypso', has only been tarnished by the 'slow overs' rate of their battery of fast bowlers, at times only 10 six-ball overs per hour, and one which has been admonished by the 'Establishment'.

To quote John Arlott once again, "The game, in its 'instant' form, can see top class performers produce a result in four hours. At the international level, the same men can play a completely indecisive 'draw' in five days."

When the game is talked about, the name of Dr. W.G. Grace is always mentioned with reverence. It was in May, 1878 that he led an England team against an Australian side at Lord's and lost to them by nine wickets. Dr Grace made 4 and 0 and Spofforth and Boyle had analysis of 6 for 4 and 6 for 3 in the first and second innings. And the national calamity was recorded for posterity by punch with this quatrain:

*The Australians came down like a wolf on the fold,
And the Marylebone cracks for a trifle were bowled.
Our Grace after dinner was very soon done,
And Grace after dinner did not get a run.*

But when's all said and done, the game's the thing. And it goes something like this:

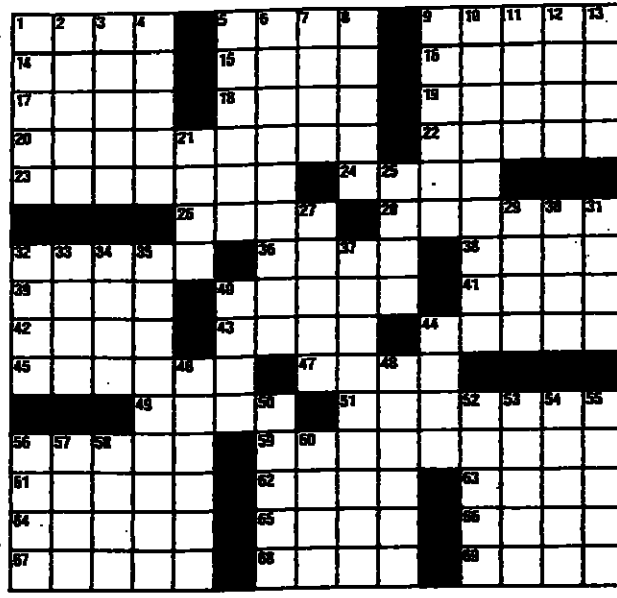
*The very noble game of cricket
Begins and ends with a wicket
You hit and run, the hits are runs
But then one bowls a maiden over.*

*When sides keep going in and out
That's what the game's all about.
A soaring hit that goes for six
Might be followed by hat tricks.
The umpires call the close of play
They all agree its been quite a day.*

*The teams go in, its been quite a game
But for some it won't be quite the same.
These 'muddled oafs and flannelled fools'
Out in the middle use strange tools.*

*A bat, a ball, gloves and stumps
And then one team comes out trumps.
There's nothing 'underhand' about cricket?*

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Baby's wheels
 - 5 Bare spot on a mountain
 - 9 — out (intimidate)
 - 14 Prefix with sphere
 - 15 Saintry light
 - 16 Informed
 - 17 Biting
 - 18 Before carp or demers
 - 19 Tarry
 - 20 Rio de Janeiro's peak
 - 22 Judges
 - 23 Like wind and glaciers
 - 24 — of the earth
 - 26 Israel's Golda
 - 28 Go to bed
 - 32 Billiard shot
 - 35 Word with goods
 - 38 30 Down's forte
 - 39 Freshly
 - 40 News article
 - 41 Colleen
 - 42 Jim Ryn's run
 - 43 "Sum, —, fui..."
 - 44 Cruise ship pastime
 - 45 Claim
 - 47 Certain case
 - 49 Big Top's top
 - 51 Friendly
 - 56 Buddies
 - 59 — Fairy: "The"
- DOWN**
- 1 Moon's aspect
 - 2 Happen again
 - 3 Pedro's pal
 - 4 Legendary goldmaker
 - 5 Table
 - 6 Rapids riders
 - 7 Alan of M-A-S-H
 - 8 Gable and hip
 - 9 River boat wheel
 - 10 Soft-soap
 - 11 El's place
 - 12 Stuff
 - 13 Attention getters
 - 21 Frosty coating
 - 25 Bohemian
 - 27 Birds do it
 - 29 Dies —
 - 30 Opera's Stevens
 - 31 Bridge position
 - 32 Family member
- Nutcracker**
- 61 Roman household gods
 - 62 Prove, in law
 - 63 Philatelist's sheet
 - 64 Diatoms
 - 65 Mardi Gras sequel
 - 66 Rim
 - 67 Track events
 - 68 Ring needs
 - 69 Salacious stare
- 33 Indigo**
- 34 Word with hard or soft
 - 35 Candied fruit; e.g.
 - 37 Player able to bargain
 - 40 Fortune-teller
 - 44 Cooking direction
 - 45 Talks hot air
 - 48 Stings
 - 50 Hymn
 - 52 Fencing play
 - 53 Swaggerer
 - 54 Fencer's thrust
 - 55 Moslem prince
 - 56 Quahog
 - 57 Nathan, the patriot
 - 58 Egg on
 - 60 Eye feature

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

EVERYONE'S BEST FRIEND

Neither vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
 ♠ 10
 ♥ 3 2
 ♦ A Q J 10 8 5 4
 ♣ 10 7 6

WEST
 ♠ A 3
 ♥ K Q 10 9 7
 ♦ K 7
 ♣ Q J 9 5

EAST
 ♠ 9 8 6
 ♥ A J 8 5 4
 ♦ 9 6 3
 ♣ 8 3

SOUTH
 ♠ K Q J 7 5 4 2
 ♥ 6
 ♦ 2
 ♣ A K 4 2

The bidding:
 West North East South
 1 ♥ 3 ♦ 3 ♥ 4 ♣
 5 ♥ Pass Pass 5 ♣
 Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♣
 One way to neutralize a long suit is to remove the entries to it. But what if there are no entries in the outside suits? This hand is an object lesson.

Let's suppose that North-South reach five spades on an auction such as the one shown. South should have taken a sure profit by doubling five hearts, but then there would have been no tale to tell. Let's see what would happen with routine defense. Suppose that West leads the king of hearts and continues the suit for declarer to ruff. He leads a low spade and West ducks. Now the contract can no longer be defeated!

Declarer returns to hand with a

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SPADE OSLIO KONG
 AERIE LIAR ERIE
 SPILLED THE BEANS
 SEAL VEER ALLOT
 BORDEN PEND CREESE
 AMAIN DETSM MOD
 LAYSITON THE LINE
 IRE TINGE TOREN
 CAPORE STIR
 ADULT EARN NAVY
 TELL SIT LIKE IT IS
 ELISE DAVE ANISE
 REID OLES TAIPER

club and forces out the ace of trumps. Thanks to the doubleton king of diamonds inside, and the fact that West is now out of trumps, declarer has no difficulty collecting the rest of the tricks.

When Dr. George Rosenkranz of Mexico City held the West hand, the play to the first two tricks went as above. On declarer's lead of a low spade, however, Rosenkranz flew up with the ace and shifted to a low diamond!

Declarer had no way to counter this lethal defense. Since he did not have a second diamond, his line of communication with dummy was shattered. He finessed the ten and cashed the ace of diamonds for a club discard, felling the king in the process, but it did him no good. If he continued with a high diamond, West would ruff for the setting trick. If he did anything else, he would, in the fullest of time, have to surrender a club trick for down one.



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will have to take care to curb your impulsiveness. You will have some good luck but not enough to solve all your problems. You should show a little more goodwill. Be cordial.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will have a good opportunity but must act quickly or you will lose it. Something will happen to raise your morale. You should avoid becoming involved in something that is no concern of yours. Be amenable.

Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You will be able to make the appropriate decision. You should ensure that you do not quarrel with your superiors even if you do not entirely agree with them. Do not altogether neglect your personal life. Be firm but not obstinate.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You will have to deal with a difficult situation but you will know how to do so. You should get more into yourself, instead participate in what is going on around you. Do not think quite so negatively. Be prudent.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Today you must not do anything that is not strictly practical. You should not place too much reliance on your 'instincts' and intuitions. Also you must make sure you can afford what you are about to spend. Be considerate.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You should avoid accumulating too much paper dealing with things you would like to but know you have no time for. Your mood will not be good but you should try to avoid allowing things to get on your nerves.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You should not be too easily persuaded to change your mind but nor should you be obdurate. You will be able to do something a little out of the ordinary but you must not throw caution to the winds. Take good care of your health. Be less critical.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

There is no point in dwelling too much on what might have been. You will be rather too easily irritated and should try to restrain yourself. Avoid blaming others for what is substantially your own fault. Be more tolerant.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will need to be a little more patient. Think more of others less of and about yourself. You should not forget a promise you have made. Be provident.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will be able to do something you have been prevented from doing lately. Something you have had your eye on will prove to be more expensive than you had imagined. You should avoid being jealous. Be provident.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You will find it easier to make yourself master of the situation. Make sure you allow for traffic delays when you set out for an appointment. You should not prevaricate and nor should you sit on the fence. Be a little more patient.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will be able to make a few changes, but should consider them carefully first. You had better live and let live than try to force your own will on others. You should avoid all kinds of exaggeration. Be sincere.

The Art Buchwald Column

Small talk



embarrass him with a lot of personal questions.

"Bush could have chosen anyone he wanted for his running mate. The fact he picked Quayle without checking him out means Bush is his own man."

"Quayle may not make the greatest VP, but at least he'll look great at a state funeral."

"I'm glad the brouhaha on Quayle broke because it brings the entire presidential race down to the bottom level where it belongs."

"The reason I would trust Dan Quayle to put his finger on the button in the Oval Office is that he is probably one of the best golfers in Washington."

1988, Los Angeles Times Syndicate

ALL you hear lately at parties is talk about Dan Quayle. Everyone seems to have an opinion and I've taken note of some of them.

"I don't care if you went to the Mekong Delta, the Indiana National Guard or Canada during the Vietnam War — as long as you went somewhere."

"I think Quayle is lucky to have a dad who would use influence to get him into the service of his choice. Most fathers would let their sons do it on their own."

"The National Guard plays an important role in wartime, especially if you have an ugly strike in Indiana."

"The press is making a big deal of Quayle's lousy record in college. But everyone knows that you don't need a Ph.D. to be Vice-President of the United States."

"If Clint Eastwood had spent six years in the National Guard in Indiana, he never would have had to look for movie material again."

"Quayle may not have had a great senatorial record, but don't forget he is awfully young to vote."

"Sure, Quayle had lousy grades when he was

admitted to law school. But there is nothing wrong with that. He's running for Vice-President — not for country judge."

"Bush knew he had the right running mate when he asked Dan Quayle if he had ever burned an American flag, and Quayle said he hadn't."

"Another plus of having Quayle a heartbeat away from the Presidency is that if he ever has trouble with Iran he can call up his father and mother and ask them to fix it."

"Dan Quayle is getting a bad rap on his military service. If he knew someday that he was going to be the vice-presidential candidate he would have paid his own way to Vietnam to participate in the Tet Offensive."

"Dan is strong on Star Wars and weak on veterans' benefits, but that doesn't mean he fooled

around with Paula Parkinson."

"The question of influence should not be a political issue. You don't put down people just because they have a bigger Rolodex than you do."

"The trouble with George Bush is that he is taking all the attention of the campaign away from Danny. It's the vice-presidential campaign that deserves the people's attention."

"They say we should drop the stuff about Dan's background and deal with important things such as the economy and the Communist threat in Central America. But they always say that when the campaign isn't going well."

"I don't know what it takes to qualify for Vice-President of the United States, but I believe once you nominate that person no one has the right to

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Key ministers to discuss market glut

Oil prices jump as OPEC talks planned

LONDON, Sept. 14, (Reuters). Oil prices jumped today when OPEC said five key organisation ministers would meet in 11 days' time to try to do something about the latest glut in the market.

OPEC's Secretary-General, Subroto of Indonesia, announced the September 25 meeting of the five-member pricing committee in a statement issued by the OPEC news agency from the group's Vienna headquarters.

Spot prices leapt, with a cargo of typical North Sea Brent crude trading at \$14.42 a barrel. That was up more than 50 cents from Tuesday and \$1.50 since Monday.

In the 1970s, OPEC drove the price of the barrel to \$40. But that stamped the West into energy conservation and a quest for alternative supply that created a glut.

Just this week, OPEC President Riliwanu Lukman of Nigeria said there could be a repeat of a 1986 market crash when the price fell to \$8 if production was not curbed.

Warning

OPEC headquarters renewed the warning of a repetition of the traumatic events of 1986 in an anniversary statement.

"OPEC is making every possible effort to put its own house in order by encouraging all member countries to strictly abide by their assigned production levels," it said.

But it added that there had been "fundamental changes in the structure of the oil industry." Although OPEC was still a "power which cannot be ignored," other sellers had to help it.

The arithmetic looks ominous for OPEC. Its output rose to 20 million barrels daily in August,

according to some industry estimates.

That compares with actual demand for its crude around 18.5 million, the industry thinks, and with only about 17.75 which it should be pumping if members stuck to mandated quotas.

As a measure of OPEC's decline, in the late 1970s it produced a third more oil than now. Every drop was in demand.

Subroto did not say where the pricing committee which includes Saudi Arabia, the biggest exporter, would meet. But OPEC sources said Indonesia's resort island of Bali was likely.

They are empowered to call emergency talks of all 13 ministers if they judge prices are too far from OPEC's target.

Current prices are well below the proposed international pricing structure based on a "benchmark" of \$18 for average-quality crude oil.

But the committee, at its last meeting held in Lausanne on August 3, simply issued a statement deploring the weakness.

Since then, Subroto has toured nine member states pleading for output restraint. Subroto, 59, who was Indonesia's Oil Minister for a decade before moving to the secretary-general's job this year, is a much-respected negotiator.

Major problems include Iraq's refusal to accept any quota and the attitude of the United Arab Emirates which regards its quota as unfair. It produced 1.6 million barrels daily in August, according to industry sources polled by Reuters, against an assigned limit of just under 950,000.

Industry leaders outside

OPEC urged new efforts to curb production this week.

Norwegian Oil Minister Arne Oien was quoted by the Paris financial daily La Tribune de L'Expansion today as saying: "Oil prices can only go up if production surpluses are cut — that is, if OPEC members reached an agreement."

But that is not happening at the moment, so prices could fall below \$10.

On Tuesday, Robert Horton, managing director at British Petroleum Co Plc, told a seminar that OPEC should consider holding a ministerial meeting quickly. He said:

"Since OPEC controls so much of the world's oil, it is also asked to shoulder a unique responsibility for its price."

Meanwhile, Energy Minister Diego Tamariz said today Ecuador plans to seek an increase in its OPEC production quota, saying his government budget plans did not account for the recent decline in world oil prices.

Tamariz said the average price

Ecuador gets for its oil has been ranging between \$11.88 and \$11.55 a barrel, while the government's budget was calculated on an estimate of \$17 a barrel.

Tendency

"There is a certain weakness in the petroleum market that has accentuated in recent days, with a declining tendency," Tamariz said in a news conference.

Ecuador is one of the smallest producers among the 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, although oil provides more than half of its export earnings.

The energy minister said Ecuador planned to ask OPEC to increase its production quota from 210,000 barrels daily to between 300,000 and 310,000 barrels.

Ecuador currently produces 310,000 barrels a day with special permission from OPEC, which ends this month. OPEC approved the temporary increase in Ecuador's production after the country suffered devastating economic damage from earthquakes in March 1987.

Talks

Industry executives had urged the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries to hold emergency talks to try to stop some members producing in excess of mandated quotas and flooding the market.

The announcement that talks will now be held coincided with the 28th anniversary of the founding of the once-mighty organisation.

US raises Soviet grain import estimates as crop falters

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14, (Reuters). The Soviet Union will produce less grain than expected in 1988 and will have to increase imports, the US Agriculture Department said yesterday.

In its monthly report on world agriculture supply and demand, the Agriculture Department estimated the Soviet grain crop at 205 million tonnes, five million tonnes less than it estimated a month ago.

At the same time, it raised its estimate of Soviet grain imports to 27 million tonnes for the 1988/1989 marketing year, two million tonnes more than projected last month.

Less-than-expected yields for coarse grains including barley, rye and oats were responsible for the decline. Preliminary yield figures for crops other than corn have fallen below expectations in several key areas, the department said.

Production

The Agriculture Department lowered its barley production estimate by three million tonnes to 47.5 million tonnes, its estimate by one million tonnes to 16.5 million, and the oats estimate by one million tonnes to 16.5 million.

The wheat crop estimate was unchanged this month at 91 million tonnes.

The department cited a September 7 Moscow television report that the 1988 grain harvest would be less than last year's 211.4 million tonnes, well below the 237 million tonne goal Moscow had set for the year.

The department's total grain import estimate of 27 million tonnes is five million tonnes less than last year.

Department officials said on Monday the outlook for 1988 US production of corn and soybeans declined only modestly from estimates a month ago, reflecting an easing of the summer drought.

Ceasefire will increase investments in Gulf

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Sept. 14, (AP). Businessmen and government officials from the Gulf region held talks here yesterday to promote investment now that the Iran-Iraq ceasefire has taken hold.

The three-day conference, which began on Monday, is sponsored by the Gulf Co-operation Council, the Swedish Trade Council and the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consulting.

"Companies that hesitated doing business with us during the war now should be more inclined to come," said Abdullah Al-Abdulla, assistant general-secretary of the GOIC.

Forty-eight Arab delegates are attending the conference, including Saudi Arabian Minister of Industry and Electricity Abdul-Aziz Al-Zamil. Others came from Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Oman, Dubai, Bahrain and Iraq.

Among issues discussed at the conference was a tax-free zone for industrial investments in Dubai, presented by the head of the Jebel Ali free zone authority, Sultan Bin Sulayem.

Sulayem said 5 per cent of the area is occupied and an adjoining port only is used to 40 per cent of its capacity.

Tokyo expected to tell other nations no need to change its monetary policies

Japan to attend IMF meetings with head held high

TOKYO, Sept. 14, (Reuters). Japan will be going to International Monetary Conference in West Berlin later this month with its head held high, proud both of what it has and has not done.

Officials said it had succeeded in achieving what it has pledged to do in the past — boost its economy, the second most powerful after America's in the non-communist world, and reduce its trade surplus.

Speculation

And it has managed to do that without stoking inflation so as to avoid joining other industrial powers like the United States, West Germany and Britain in raising interest rates.

"In a way, Japan has served as an anchor in preventing a chain reaction of interest rate hikes," one official said.

Tokyo's steadfastness helped dispel market speculation about the risk of a round of competitive interest rate increases which might have crimped global economic expansion and frightened the stock markets, share dealers here said.

That contrasts with the situation a year ago in Washington at the 1987 annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank.

At that time, Tokyo was hinting that it might raise rates and was being pressed by the United States and others for solid assurances that it would not.

At this year's meeting in West Berlin, Japan is expected to tell the other industrial nations it sees no need to change its monetary and economic policies for now, officials said.

"What is most important for

Japan now is to remain calm," Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said last month.

A measure of Japan's confidence is its lack of concern about its poor economic performance in the second quarter.

Figures due just ahead of the Berlin meetings at the end of September are expected to show that the economy contracted in the second quarter.

Contraction

But Japan is not worried that its trading partners will jump on the figures as a pretext to press for more action to boost its economy in the drive to get it and West Germany to take up any slack in global demand for goods as the United States struggles to cut its huge trade deficit.

Akira Nambu, a senior Japanese official, said the contraction in economic activity

in the second quarter was only a pause in Japan's continued expansion.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development had forecast that Japan's gross national product may expand by as much as four per cent in the first half of 1989, compared with 2.75 per cent for the 24-nation OECD area as a whole.

None of this means, however, that Japan is without some worries about its economy in the longer term.

Nambu expressed concern about the recent rapid rise in Japanese exports and about the tightening supply of labour.

Figures this week showed that Japanese exports rose 18 per cent in August from a year earlier. Such rapid growth, if continued, could bring the decline in Japan's

trade surplus to a halt, some economists said.

The tightening supply of labour has been highlighted by figures showing 109 jobs for every 100 job applicants.

Rates

For that reason, Japan is likely to be slightly circumspect in Berlin in promising not to raise interest rates so that it still has that weapon in reserve in case inflation picks up.

Japan does not want to have its future monetary policies bound by any remarks it will make at the meetings in West Berlin, one official said.

Some private and government economists also worry that the stage is being set for a slowdown in economic growth next year because of a rapid increase this year in company spending on plant and equipment.

Bid to promote non-oil exports

Indonesia looks towards economic take-off

JAKARTA, Sept. 14, (Reuters). Indonesia's motto is "Bhinneka tunggal ika" — unity in diversity.

Bankers said it will have to follow that principle religiously in order to wean itself off its economic dependence on oil exports and foreign debt.

If Jakarta wants to prepare for a take-off in five years' time the wake of some of its more developed Asian neighbours, then it must allow economic diversity in the sprawling 13,677-island archipelago to blossom, they said.

That means more deregulation and less government control. For most of the past 20 years, the government has kept tight control of the economy as it has sought to weld together a nation as broad as the United States with more than 300 languages and dialects.

Need

But now the need to find jobs for Indonesia's rapidly expanding workforce is forcing the government to loosen its grip in order to develop the non-oil sector of the economy and become

less dependent on foreign debt, bankers said.

Already Southeast Asia's largest nation with 175 million people, Indonesia expects its workforce to grow by more than two million per year in the early 1990s.

Jakarta recognises the problem and has launched five deregulatory packages in two years in a bid to promote non-oil exports. A sixth package is expected soon.

Growth

Junior Trade Minister Sudradjat Djiwandono told Reuters in an interview that the performance of non-oil exports was crucial to the development of Indonesia's economy.

After rising more than 30 per cent in 1987, non-oil exports stagnated this year at around a monthly \$800 to \$500 million through May, before jumping some 20 per cent in June. Major non-oil exports are plywood, textiles and farm products.

"We are concerned about it (stagnating non-oil exports)," Djiwandono said.

But he attributed the pause in export growth in the first part of this year to special factors.

"We think \$50 million is not the plateau," he said. "We could still do better in the rest of this year."

As domestic producers add to capacity to take advantage of the brighter export picture, shipments abroad should grow.

Jakarta has also actively sought to increase the value of its exports.

It has banned the export of raw and semi-processed rattan, a bamboo-like wood that flourishes in its rain forests but few other places in the world.

Jakarta expects the ban — which means the only rattan leaving the nation will be in the form of assembled or unassembled furniture and products — to capture much of the \$500 million world market for fashionable cane furniture.

Competitiveness

There seems little disagreement here that what is needed to boost the competitiveness of Indonesia's non-oil

exports is more deregulation, not currency devaluation.

"The rupiah is at a very realistic rate," Djiwandono said.

It is not labour but other costs that hinder Indonesia's competitiveness, bankers said. Some businessmen also complain of the large influence of President Suharto's family in business decisions.

Sky-high interest rates of as much as 24 per cent are one of those costs. Although fears of capital flight can partly be blamed for the high rates, an inefficient banking industry has also played a part.

"It is too high because of the inefficiency of the banking system here," said Priasmoro Prawirodjo, president director of Indonesia's Bank Perkreditan Rakyat. "Seventy per cent of the credit market is in the hands of five or six state banks."

Both the World Bank and the Asia Development Bank have also urged the government to develop the local stock market to provide industry with another source of funds.

Oil ministers to meet next month

RIYADH, Sept. 14, (Reuters). Six Gulf Arab oil ministers, including four OPEC members, will meet in the Saudi Arabian capital on Oct 16 to co-ordinate policies, officials said today.

The ministers from the four OPEC nations, Kuwait, Qatar, UAE and Saudi Arabia, will also discuss their positions ahead of the Nov 21 OPEC conference in Vienna.

The four states are members of a six-nation economic and military alliance — the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) — which includes two small oil producers Bahrain and Oman.

GCC officials said the ministers would discuss oil and natural gas marketing and ways of stabilising oil prices.

The ministers are also expected to discuss a demand by the UAE to double its Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) quota of 948,000 barrels per day (BPD).

According to a Reuters survey, the UAE produced about 1.6 million BPD in August.

Weary Poles face more difficulties before economy can improve

WARSAW, Sept. 14, (Reuters). Hard-pressed Poles face more sacrifices as the price of national economic revival, say economists here as the communist authorities and Solidarity leader Lech Walesa prepare for talks expected to begin this month.

For most Poles, shortages, inflation, waste, poor housing, shoddy consumer goods and an almost worthless currency have made life a weary business throughout the 1980s. Most also feel that conditions have grown worse in the last few months.

But Polish economists say the unpleasant truth is that things will have to become worse still before people can expect improvements. That, they say, is the price of reform.

Need

One economist, Piotr Aleksandrowicz, accuses both the government and the opposition of failing to spell out the need for more austerity to the country's 38 million people.

"This is perhaps Poland's worst tragedy — even though everybody says he or she is in favour of reform," he wrote in the weekly Przegląd Tygodni-

owy this month.

The problem is hardly new in Poland's communist history since World War Two. Successive party leaderships, bent on reform, have tried to make Poles swallow bitter medicine such as price rises that outpace wage increases.

Strikes

Those same leaderships have then either been toppled by worker unrest, as in 1970 and 1980, or like the current team of General Wojciech Jaruzelski, yielded to public pressure and allowed wage rises that only make the problem worse.

"So far, the authorities have as a rule succumbed to the pressure of particular interests at the expense of the general public interest," Politburo member Wladyslaw Bak, who is responsible for the economy, said last month.

"This must change," he told a party central committee meeting called to discuss Poland's worst strike wave in seven years.

Walesa, who helped end the strikes after the authorities agreed to consider re-legitimising his Solidarity trade union, says

the underlying problem is glaringly obvious.

He says more than 40 years of heavy-handed, ideologically-rigid communist management has wrecked the economy, and that Poles cannot be expected to accept austerity now if they do not have free trade unions and a government they trust.

Walesa accepts the party's view that strikes are the last thing Poland's economy needs, but says they are inevitable as long as the communists keep their tight rein on society.

Troubles

Whoever is right, there is little argument that Poland's economy has rarely been in a bigger mess. Economists say Poland ranks in the bottom five of European countries in terms of availability of goods and services.

Travellers in Eastern Europe soon notice the contrast between Poland and Hungary and Czechoslovakia, which, for all their troubles, have restaurants that really can serve what is listed on menus and shops that are brighter and better-stocked.

Industrial nations to weigh next rate and budget moves

PARIS, Sept. 14, (Reuters). Officials of major industrial nations began talks today to weigh the need for any new moves to pinch off inflation as fears of a world recession fade and more robust economic expansion seems in prospect.

The meetings of officials culminate on Thursday in talks by the core group of seven (G-7) nations to lay the groundwork for ministerial discussions at the International Monetary Fund annual session in West Berlin at the end of this month.

Discussion was likely to focus on the best response to any resurgence of inflation, diplomats and economists said, while fears of a repeat of the October 1987 stock market crash were unlikely to weigh heavily.

"It's a risk that's receded very considerably," a diplomat said. "It could come back. But it's less and less likely as time goes by because demand is holding up so well."

In the main, a number of interest rate increases in the summer has dampened expectations of runaway prices.

But, although weaker oil prices have further eased infla-

tion fears, a steady climb in non-oil commodity costs and burgeoning wage demands are causing some concern.

"I'm not personally convinced that inflation has been completely beaten," one diplomat said.

Officials at the meetings may suggest that it is time for the United States, Britain and Canada in particular to take some inflationary heat out of their economies through tax increases.

West Germany would probably also come under some further pressure to stimulate internal demand.

But with America engaged in a presidential election campaign, few diplomats expect US officials to risk the kind of public disharmony seen late last year when Washington demanded that West Germany stoke up its economy to help global expansion.

Last week in Paris, French Finance Minister Pierre Berezogov said Europe's future depended on Germany giving a shot in the arm to internal demand to boost foreign imports.

World Business Summary

India welcomes overseas investors: Venkataraman

THE HAGUE, Netherlands, Sept. 14, (AP). Indian President Ramaswami Venkataraman said yesterday that his nation welcomes foreign investors to enable India to modernise its economy, which he claimed had been liberalised considerably over the past few years.

"India encourages (economic) collaborations and assures a durable political environment," Venkataraman said during a lunch with Dutch cabinet ministers here on the second day of a state visit to The Netherlands.

"With the gradual disappearance of shortages, India has liberalised its economic policies and encouraged entrepreneurs to go into diverse fields," the President said. And he noted that until recently, his nation had relied on rigid economic planning because "the transformation... from a benighted agricultural state into a modern industrial one could not have been achieved without planned development." But Venkataraman warned that although India has "launched into sophisticated areas like space research... we still have to go very far, if we are to provide a fair standard of living for our teeming millions of population."

Venkataraman also visited the Royal Tropical Institute in the Dutch capital, a government-sponsored research facility on development aid, tropical medicine and education in the Third World. Venkataraman's Dutch visit is the first stop on a four-nation European tour that also includes Finland, Czechoslovakia, and Cyprus. Before flying to the Finnish capital of Helsinki today, he will conclude his visit to The Netherlands with a trip to a wind energy complex in the northern Netherlands.

Air Lanka to provide more seats for Mideast workers

COLOMBO, Sept. 14, (KUNA). Sri Lanka's national airline, Air Lanka, said they are working to meet the demand for increased seats by the labour sector on Middle East routes. An official of Air Lanka's operations department told KUNA, they are aware of the sensitivities of labour traffic to the Middle East and making every effort to give the best possible service. The official said that all of Air Lanka's flights to the region, except to Dubai and Abu Dhabi, are flights with no onward connections. "This means that full seating capacity is available to these countries," the official said. The official said an analysis of the airline's services to the Middle East from April to August last year and this year indicates a 56 per cent increase in seating capacity has been provided this year. However, the official told KUNA most of other airlines operating through Colombo to the Middle East extend flights to destinations mostly in western Europe. "They are therefore unable to meet the increased demand for seats to the Middle East due to their commitment to other destinations," he said. Last week officials from the state-run Foreign Employment Bureau and local employment agencies claimed they are unable to meet the labour demand to Middle East countries due to inadequate airline seats.

New taxation system played

KARACHI, Pakistan, Sept. 14, (Reuters). A Pakistani business leader said yesterday the government's new taxation system would drive money underground and discourage foreign investors. "The economy will turn black if high taxes are imposed," Tariq Sayeed, president of the Federation of Pakistani Chambers of Commerce and Industry, told a news conference. He denounced the system introduced by Finance Minister Mahbubul Haq in his June budget speech, saying it needed a total overhaul. The system had complicated tax assessment and payment of refunds and shattered the confidence of the business community, Sayeed said. It would penalise both Pakistani and foreign companies. Sayeed said he favoured taxing agricultural income which is largely exempt in Pakistan. Pakistani and Western economists say one of Pakistan's major economic problems is the low level of its tax revenue, due largely to the political power of the farm lobby in this overwhelmingly agricultural country. In his budget speech, the finance minister said tax on income worth 51 billion rupees (\$3 billion) was being evaded each year and announced a thorough re-structuring of the system. He also declared war on income tax evaders, announcing stiff penalties including up to 14 years imprisonment. Sayeed asked Pakistani businessmen to put pressure on the government to change its mind.

AMF revises lending policy

ABU DHABI, Sept. 14, (Reuters). The Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) has had to revise its lending policy because of recession and falling oil revenues in Arab states, the fund's chief was quoted today as saying. "The fund has revised its lending priorities due to the current Arab economic situation, dwindling oil revenues and growing financing needs of states suffering deficits in their balance of payments," said Abdullah Al Quwaiz, chairman of the Abu Dhabi-based fund. He gave no details of the new priorities in the interview with an Arab bankers' magazine, carried by the official emirates news agency WAM. "We have modified the fund's lending activities to cope with the economic conditions in Arab states, especially in inter-Arab trade, technical form the AMF's board of governors approved in April a \$500-million scheme to finance inter-Arab trade. Half the capital was financed by the AMF while the rest is to be subscribed by Arab banks and financial institutions. The AMF was set up in 1977 by the 21 members of the Arab League in a step towards Arab economic integration.

OPEC emergency meeting

LONDON, Sept. 14, (KUNA). The managing director of British Petroleum (BP) appealed here Tuesday for OPEC to hold an emergency meeting before November to steady oil prices. An oil price collapse would have "devastating" consequences for the oil-producing states and the world's long-term energy security, Robert Horton said during an energy seminar in Oxford, central England. In his address, Horton recognised OPEC's central position in the oil markets. He argued: "Since OPEC controls so much of the world's oil, it is also asked to shoulder a unique responsibility for its price." "In my view, this alone is good reason for OPEC giving serious thought to holding an emergency meeting before Nov 21," he added. The two months until the Vienna meeting could "spell a lifetime" for the oil industry, Horton claimed in a text of his speech released by BP. "OPEC's production needs to get in line with market demand sooner than that. Could not an emergency meeting help this objective?" He provided, of course, it is a meeting with a positive outcome. He asked. The senior BP executive noted that there is no such thing as a "right" oil price, adding there is "plenty of room for discussion as to what price best satisfies the long-term interests of oil as to oil price best satisfies the long-term interests of oil producers and consumers." Speaking less than 24 hours after prices hit a two-year low here he warned: "We have surely experienced enough over the past decade to know when the oil price is just plain wrong."

Saudis sell wheat to China, Moscow

RIYADH, Sept. 14, (Reuters). The desert kingdom of Saudi Arabia exported over 700,000 tonnes of wheat to 30 countries, including China and the Soviet Union in the past four months, government officials said today. Officials at the Grain Silos Organisation said Moscow and Peking were its biggest customers. Riyadh does not have diplomatic relations with either country. The officials said China received 300,000 tonnes of a 500,000-tonne order, while the Soviet Union had so far taken half of its 400,000-tonne purchase. The exports were made from existing stocks, officials said, and not from this year's harvest which is expected to top 2.8 million tonnes, compared to just 3,000 tonnes 10 years ago. Saudi Arabia became a wheat exporter following the creation of an incentive programme for farmers which pays them about 10 times the world price for their wheat.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	196/0
ABBEY LIFE	302/0	196/0
ADT LTD	128/0	212/0
ALD LYONS	400/0	240/0
ANSTRAD	200/0	434/0
ARGYLL GP	167/0	553/0
ASDA GP	146/5	393/0
BAA	254/0	567/0
BTR	272/0	304/0
BAT INDS	440/0	259/0
BARCLAYS	397/0	535/0
BASS	745/4	207/0
BEAZER	172/0	158/0
BEECHAM	454/0	191/5
BERISFORD	375/0	398/0
BICC PLC	335/0	213/0
BLUE ARMY	91/0	352/0
BLUE CIRC	424/0	330/0
BOC GP	400/0	352/0
BOOTS CO	211/0	352/0
BPE INDS	299/0	352/0
BR CO	222/0	352/0
BR AIRWAY	149/0	352/0
BR AEROSP	165/0	352/0
BR GAS RT	165/0	352/0
BR LAND	318/0	352/0
B.P.	241/0	352/0
B.P.PP	142/0	352/0
BURMAN OL	509/0	352/0
BURTON	197/0	352/0
CABLEWIR	366/0	352/0
CADBURYS	346/0	352/0
COATS VTY	300/0	352/0
COMINT	324/0	352/0
CONS GOLD	052/0	352/0
COWSONS	246/0	352/0
COURTALL	303/4	352/0
DALGETY	314/0	352/0
DEE CP	163/0	352/0
DIXONS	154/0	352/0
ENG CHINA	452/0	352/0
ENTER OIL	640/0	352/0
FXI BACK	121/0	352/0
FERRANTI	84/0	352/0
GEN ACCID	874/0	352/0
GEN ELEC	156/0	352/0
GLAXO	027/0	352/0
GRANADA	296/0	352/0
GLOBE	139/5	352/0
GLYME	280/0	352/0
GRAND NTL	78/0	352/0
GUINNESS	317/0	352/0
HANSON	620/0	352/0
HARRISON	620/0	352/0
HAWKER SID	505/0	352/0
HILLSDOWN	261/0	352/0
ICI	026/0	352/0

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLCE	737/0	736/0
600 GROUP	105/0	105/0
A.AMER TS	352/0	353/0
A.B.ELECT	415/0	416/0
A.S.V.HLD	177/0	178/0
AAB KENT	72/0	72/0
AAH HLD	259/0	259/0
AARONSON	112/0	111/0
ADHESION	33/0	33/0
ADHESION	307/0	308/0
ALEX MKW	361/0	361/0
ALEXON	124/0	125/0
ALD COLL	232/0	232/0
ALD IR B	116/0	116/0
ALD PLMT	52/0	53/0
ALLIANCE	819/0	822/0
ANSBACHER	82/0	83/0
APPLEYARD	451/0	452/0
APV PLC	111/0	112/0
ASHLEY LA	106/0	105/0
ATLANTIC CN	495/0	495/0
ATMOS	262/0	262/0
AUS REE A	270/0	269/0
AUTO SECS	237/5	237/5
AVEL PLC	67/0	67/0
AVIS EUR	330/0	330/0
AVON RUBB	711/0	710/0
B.MEJWILL	174/0	175/0
BAILL JAP	464/0	463/0
BAILL SHI	79/0	79/0
BATRO (V)	243/0	243/0
BAIK IRE	226/0	227/0
BAIKER IT	71/4	73/0
BARKER DO	136/4	136/0
BARKET DEV	165/0	165/0
BARNEYS C	29/0	30/0
BBR GROUP	154/0	155/0
BEAR B.VT	4/0	4/0
BEAR BRAND	9/4	9/4
BEATTIE J	137/0	138/0
BEJAN GP	151/0	151/0
BELHAVEN	51/0	51/0
BELLWAY	228/0	228/0
BENROSE	212/0	213/0
BENKOL HD	54/0	54/0
BERKELEY	281/0	282/0
BHAM MINT	404/0	405/0
BHM GROUP	98/0	99/0
BK OF SCOT	349/0	348/0
BK LE 2	13/0	13/0
BUNNETT F	36/0	36/0
BOASE MAS	229/0	229/0
BOODINGTON	138/0	138/0
BODY SHOP	573/0	573/0

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-YR
FT 300 ORD	1416.5	1409.8	1401.7	1483.2
FT 500 SHR	993.9	993.9	983.4	1052.0
FT ALL SHR	910.61	910.61	914.40	870.22
FT GOV SEC	86.90	86.79	86.67	88.49
FT GOLD NR	176.6	175.9	176.6	202.7
FT MINES F	521.11	521.11	519.51	574.40
FT OIL	1733.2	1733.2	1693.1	1834.0
FT MLD DLR	124.74	124.12	123.79	126.05
FT MLD STG	108.98	108.50	108.15	109.51
FT MLD LOC	114.49	113.96	113.72	115.44

London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS FIRMER WITH WALL STREET
LONDON, SEPT 14, REUTER - EQUITY PRICES WERE STEADY JUST BELOW THE DAY'S HIGHS, AS A STRONG START FROM WALL STREET COMBINED WITH GROWING SPECULATIVE INTEREST.

DEALERS SAID THE MARKET WAS HARDLY CHANGED BEFORE WALL STREET OPENED DESPITE THE RESURGENCE IN BID SPECULATION. A MUCH LOWER THAN EXPECTED U.S. TRADE DEFICIT SPURRED THE RALLY.

AT 1553 GMT THE FTSE 100 SHARE INDEX WAS 9.5 POINTS HIGHER AT 1,765.8, AFTER BRIEFLY HITTING 1770.0.

THE U.S. JULY TRADE DEFICIT FELL TO A SEASONALLY ADJUSTED 9.53 BILLION DOLLARS, THE LOWEST SINCE DECEMBER 1984, FROM AN UPWARD REVISED 13.22 BILLION IN JUNE. THIS FURTHER EASED CONCERNS THAT THE U.S. ECONOMY WAS OVERHEATING AND INTEREST RATES WOULD HAVE TO RISE THEREAFTER.

ENTERPRISE OIL SHARES WERE UP 75P TO 636 ON NEWS LASMO IS TO AUCTION ITS 25 PCT STAKE IN ENTERPRISE, WHICH IT VALUED THIS MORNING AT 450 MLN STG.

LASMO ITSELF CONTINUED TO RISE FOLLOWING YESTERDAY'S DAWN RAID ATTEMPT BY BRITISH GAS. THE RAID, AIMED AT PICKING UP 15 PCT OF LASMO, ENDED WITH BRITISH GAS HOLDING 1.14 PCT OF LASMO.

London Gold

LONDON, SEPT 14, REUTER - GOLD CLOSED 1.50 DOLLARS HIGHER AT 421.50/422.00 DOLLARS AN OUNCE, AIDED BY A RALLY IN OIL PRICES FOLLOWING NEWS THAT THE OPEC PRICING COMMITTEE IS DUE TO MEET LATER THIS MONTH, DEALERS SAID.

GOLD HAD DIPPED BACK TO UNCHANGED AT ONE STAGE IN REACTION TO A FIRMER DOLLAR ON NEWS OF A SMALLER THAN EXPECTED U.S. TRADE DEFICIT, BUT THE INFLATIONARY IMPLICATIONS OF THE REVISED STRENGTH OF OIL PROMPTED SHORTS TO TAKE COVER, DEALERS ADDED.

GOLD WAS SET AT 421.90 AND 421.50 DOLLARS AT THE MORNING AND AFTERNOON FIXING SESSIONS. IT CLOSED ON TUESDAY AT 420.00/420.50.

London Money Market

LONDON, SEPT 14, REUTER - MONEY RATES WERE LITTLE CHANGED IN LATE TRADING AFTER A LOWER THAN EXPECTED U.S. TRADE DEFICIT FOR JULY OF 9.53 BILLION DOLLARS.

THE U.S. TRADE GAP COMPARED WITH JUNE'S REVISED FIGURE OF 13.22 BILLION DOLLARS AND MARKET EXPECTATIONS OF JUST OVER 11 BILLION. THE DATA SUGGESTED THAT U.S. ECONOMIC GROWTH IS SLOWING AND THAT FURTHER U.S. INTEREST RATE RISES MAY BE LESS LIKELY.

STERLING DOLLAR AGAINST THE MARK BUT WAS SHARPLY LOWER AGAINST THE DOLLAR AND CLOSED 0.2 LOWER IN TRADE WEIGHTED TERMS AT 75.4. THE BENCHMARK THREE MONTH INTERBANK WAS QUOTED STEADY AT 12-1/8 12 PCT.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPEN
DLR	1.6805/15	1.8725/35	6.3770/20	10.6635/6770
STG	1.6910/20	3.1355/75	29.285/445	1300
DMK	1.8503/8583	3.127/142	34.14/78	1300
FFR	6.3180/3300	10.6710/6890	84.16/26	1300
SFR	1.5608/5618	2.6388/6421	24.75/78	1300
YEN	1.11602	0.69979	2.07190	1300
SDR	1.30329	0.766653	2.40447	1300
SDR RATES	225.41/74	14/09/1988	OTHERS	13/09/1988

NAME	LAST	196/0
BORTHWICK	383/0	383/0
BR ARROW	99/0	100/0
BR ASSETS	130/0	130/0
BR DREDGT	64/4	64/4
BR VITA	225/0	224/0
BRENT CHE	143/0	143/0
BRENT MCR	383/0	384/0
BRITANNIC	151/0	151/0
BRITANNIC SE	173/0	173/0
BRYANTON E	321/0	321/0
BRYANTON G	135/0	135/0
BSS INTL	58/0	58/0
BSR INTL	63/0	62/0
BULLOUGH	453/0	453/0
BULNER NP	159/0	160/0
CALENDONIA	338/0	338/0
CALOR GRP	357/0	357/0
CAMB ELEC	233/0	232/0
CANFORD E	197/0	196/0
CANNING W	210/0	210/0
CANNON ST	268/0	268/0
CAP RADIO	342/0	341/0
CARDON	318/0	317/0
CARLTON C	144/0	143/0
CARLTON E	588/0	585/0
CASE GRP	128/0	129/0
CATER ALL	349/0	348/0
CATTLE HD	63/0	64/0
CAULDON	104/0	104/0
CENTL ITV	525/0	526/0
CHAM PHRR	147/0	147/0
CHARTERHA	22/0	22/0
CHAS CHUR	104/0	105/0
CHORLIZE	52/0	52/0
CHRISTIES	505/0	505/0
CIL GROUP	44/0	45/0
CINTEL SEC	52/0	52/0
CINTRY OIL	173/0	172/0
COATES BR	315/0	315/0
COLLINS A	447/0	447/0
COLLINS W	535/0	538/0
CREST INC	182/0	182/0
CRH	130/0	131/0
CRODA INT	189/0	190/0
CRYSTALAT	150/0	149/0
DARRES EST	28/4	29/0
DAVIS CORP	141/0	141/0
DE LA RUE	403/0	403/0
DELTA GRP	273/0	272/0
DEVENISH	301/0	300/0
DIPLOMA	207/0	207/0
DOBSON PK	93/0	93/0
DOUGLAS R	276/0	276/0
DOUGLINS R	55/0	55/0
DOVITY GRP	204/0	204/0
DRAYTON C	449/0	448/0
DRG	449/0	448/0
DUNLOP NV	74/0	74/0
DUNLOP LD	285/0	286/0
DUNHILL	216/0	217/0
EAGLE STK	13/6	13/4
EDIN J.T	147/0	147/0
ELECTROCOM	190/0	191/0
ELLIS EVA	173/0	173/0
EMAP	197/0	196/0
EMPIRE ST	243/0	243/0
ERA GROUP	79/0	80/0
EURO HOME	313/0	312/0
EUROTHORN	369/0	370/0
EURLINT UL	295/0	296/0
EURLINT WT	18/6	18/4
EXPANET	183/0	181/0
FEC ENTOR	27/0	27/0
FEC EUROPT	209/0	208/0
FEC PACIF	128/0	129/0
FEC SHILL	70/0	70/0
FALCON	102/0	101/0
FARNELL E	145/8	144/0
FED. HOUSE	258/0	258/0
FENNER JH	154/0	154/0
FERGUSON	260/0	261/0
FINLAY GP	82/0	83/0
FINLAY J	106/0	106/0
FITCH LOV	115/4	115/0
FLING AME	178/0	178/0
FLING INV	133/0	134/0
FLING JAPN	178/0	178/0
FLING MERC	171/4	171/0
FLING TECH	178/0	178/0
FOR COL	103/4	103/4
FRESHBAKE	160/0	160/0
FRIEDLY NO	245/0	245/0
FRONIGORE	383/0	382/0
GARDINER	40/0	40/0
GEEST	265/0	265/0
GEI INTL	117/0	117/0
GERROBAMAT	271/0	270/0
GESTETNER	195/0	195/0
GPG	51/0	51/0
GRANPH HD	274/0	273/0
GREEN KNG	439/0	438/0
GREENLL W	212/0	214/0
GREYCATO	372/0	371/0
GRP TV A	49/0	50/0
GRPTL IND	345/0	345/0
GUINSS MA	124/0	123/0
GUS ORD	680/0	700/0
GVT ATL	124/0	125/0
GVT STRA	218/4	219/0
H'LAND DIS	109/0	108/0
HALL (M)	130/0	130/0
HALMA	177/0	176/0
HAMBROS I	207/0	207/0
HANMERSON	650/0	650/0
HARTWILL	44/4	44/4
HEATHCOTE	214/0	213/0
HELMER PL	410/0	412/0
HELMER PL	33/4	34/0
HEPORTH	230/0	231/0

Morgan Stanley Capital International Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-YR
AUSTRALIA	303.6	299.7	306.1	259.3
AUSTRIA	224.6	223.8	224.0	215.4
BELGIUM	388.0	387.5	384.2	260.2
CANADA	353.2	352.4	353.7	375.1
DENMARK	433.1	432.4	432.2	336.6
FRANCE	372.5	367.3	364.7	370.5
GERMANY	188.4	186.7	184.7	176.9
HONG KONG	1825.4	1820.7	1845.0	1945.9
FINLAND	116.9	117.0	116.9	108.1
ITALY	410.3	408.6	409.8	377.4
JAPAN	1272.5	1265.1	1259.2	1022.3
NETHERLANDS	257.0	256.0	255.0	215.9
NEW ZEAL	95.3	95.5	96.2	96.1
NORWAY	455.7	454.7	457.4	498.9
SPAIN	245.7	246.0	246.2	209.5
SWEDEN	933.8	931.3	923.7	856.8
SWITZ	156.2	155.3	155.3	140.7
U.K.	530.9	527.5	525.5	515.7
U.S.A.	246.4	245.5	244.1	251.9
WORLD	440.5	437.8	437.5	446.8
E.A.F.E.	823.3	815.3	815.3	829.3

NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCH COM	31/4	31/2
ATLANTIC R	81/0	80/4
AAR CORP	28/0	25/6
ABBOTT LAB	48/7	48/2
ACME CLVD	9/5	9/5
ADV MICRO	11/4	11/5
AETNA LIFE	0	7/2
AIR PR-CHN	51/6	52/1
ALASKA AIR	16/5	16/4

BUSINESS

Stocks marked higher

Dollar bounds on US trade figures

LONDON, Sept 14. (Reuters): The dollar shot up today on news of improved US trade figures for July and only fears of intervention by central banks cooled the rally, dealers said.

Also moving the financial markets was word from the Vienna headquarters of OPEC that key organisation ministers would meet on Sept 25 to consider action that might mop up the present oil glut. Spot crude prices jumped.

The main market factor was Washington's announcement that the seasonally adjusted US trade deficit fell to \$9.53 billion in July from a revised \$13.22 billion in June. Most forecasts were for a trade gap above \$11 billion.

"It reinforces a trend that has been going on this year... the trend looks good," US Commerce Secretary William Verity said in Jakarta where he was pursuing an Asian tour.

The markets agreed and stocks were firmer while the dollar advanced strongly. Gold was steady.

The dollar touched quoted highs at 1.8890 West German marks, nearly four pfennigs above the day's lowest value, as investors scrambled for dollar assets.

But it eased later on fears that central banks might intervene and renew their heavy dollar

sales of the kind used to check an earlier rally by America's currency this summer.

For many nations other than the United States, a rising dollar spells higher import bills which would fuel inflation.

Action
Confirming the fear of central bank action, the US Federal Reserve Board contacted dealers to "inquire about market conditions" — a warning shot across speculators' bows.

And the dollar closed in Europe below its best at 1.8775 marks, although this was still a strong gain on Tuesday's London close of 1.8485 and its best since Aug 24. The dollar ended at 134.45 yen after 133.25 yesterday.

On stock markets, the news that America seemed to be making further progress in cutting its trade deficits was somewhat offset by new worries about inflation which it seemed that OPEC might at last be about to do something about weak oil prices.

Typical North Sea Brent blend crude oil traded during the day as high as \$14.45 a barrel, up from around \$13 on Monday, after OPEC said its five-nation pricing committee would hold emergency talks about the oil glut in 11 days' time.

Traders judge that it might act to stop overproduction by several organisation members

which has flooded market and depressed prices from OPEC's benchmark of \$18 a barrel.

A rally in US bonds faltered and this had a ripple effect on Wall Street stocks. At New York's midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was up just 3.2 points at 2,086.24 after earlier rising almost to 2,100.

The performance of gold, investors' favoured hedge against inflation, showed how market sentiment was tugged one way by the oil news and another by the US trade figures.

These, in particular, showed that US imports fell 8.9 per cent to \$35.99 billion in July, as adjusted for the cost of insurance and freight. That suggested a consumer boom might be easing, diminishing the risk of inflation in America.

But gold was set for the afternoon in London's bullion exchange at \$421.50 an ounce, only slightly down from the morning. Dealers said the rebound in oil prices led players who were short of gold to cover their positions.

Gold dipped \$10 on Monday to 17-month lows when oil prices were very weak.

In London equity prices were steady just below the day's highs, as a strong start from Wall Street combined with growing speculative interest.

Dealers said the market was

hardly changed before Wall Street opened despite the resurgence in bid speculation. A much lower than expected US trade deficit spurred the rally.

AT 1553 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was 9.5 points higher at 1,765.8, after briefly hitting 1770.0.

The US July trade deficit fell to a seasonally adjusted \$9.53 billion, the lowest since December 1984, from an upward revised 13.22 billion in June. This further eased concerns that the US economy was overheating and interest rates would have to rise there again.

Enterprise Oil shares were up 73p to 636 on news Lasso is to auction its 25 per cent stake in Enterprise, which it valued this morning at \$450 million.

Lasso itself continued to rise following yesterday's dawn raid attempt by British Gas. The raid, aimed at picking up 15 per cent of Lasso, ended with British Gas holding 1.14 per cent of Lasso.

Lasso shares were up 15p to 559 on turnover of 8.5 million even though the company reported a 40 per cent decline in half year pre-tax profits to £12.3 million. British Gas was down 20p to 169. Enterprise has risen 201p to Lasso 169p since Monday's closing.

ICI, 11p higher at 1,029, also owns a 25 per cent stake in Enterprise. When it acquired the stake

two years ago, ICI said that until January 1991 it would not sell it unless the buyer was in a position to take full control of Enterprise.

Analysts see Lasso's decision as a defensive move aimed at diverting British Gas' predatory attentions to Enterprise. Many, though, still think a full bid for Lasso could come soon.

RTZ, 3p higher at 432, holds a near 30 per cent stake in Lasso but needs Lasso's approval to sell it.

Still, dealers today were speculating that RTZ would use the proceeds from such a sale to fund a possible takeover of English China Clays, a long-rumoured bid target. The talk was enough to push ECC up 16p to 453.

Higher
Ranks Hovis McDougall was 27p higher at 386 after a market rumour that Grand Metropolitan was seeking to buy Goodman Fielder Wattle's near 30 per cent stake. Analysts were sceptical over the rumour given that Grand Met is already embroiled in a bitter bid battle for Irish Distillers.

However, analysts noted that the proceeds from the planned sale of its inter-continental hotel chain, expected to be about £1.5 billion, would be enough to enable the company to cover the bid for Irish Distillers and make an offer for RHM.

Japan eases curbs on high-technology exports to China

TOKYO, Sept 14. (KUNA): Japan is easing curbs on high-technology exports to China, leading observers to believe that the latest decision and a recently signed bilateral agreement on investment guarantees will boost Japanese exports to China.

An official Japanese spokesman said eight items, including advanced computers and telecommunications gear have been dropped from the blacklist as of Thursday. The decision comes after a recent recommendation by Western industrial powers to ease restrictions on exports of advanced technologies to China.

Officials here expect more items to be dropped from the list of banned export commodities to China when a liaison committee of Western nations meets on Sept 26.

Observers believe that Japanese exports to the neighbouring Communist giant will double as a result of liberalisation of commerce, particularly the signing last month of an accord for the protection of investment in both countries.

Debt bonus still causing 'devastating damage in the Third World'

Loan losses worry IMF

WASHINGTON, Sept 14. (Reuters): The International Monetary Fund, increasingly worried about a growing number of countries that are late with their loan payments, has been setting aside money in a contingency fund to make up for the cut in receipts, the agency disclosed today.

The fund, in place for the past two years but never unveiled publicly, was discussed in the IMF's annual report and in a briefing for reporters.

The complicated arrangement can be likened to a bank's setting aside reserves to make up for bad loans. It was established as it became increasingly apparent that a number of debt-laden nations had decided to let their payments lapse.

Loans
Monetary sources said the arrangement suggests further that the IMF, which makes loans to countries hit by balance of payments problems, is increasingly worried about countries being unable to unwillingly to make their loan payments.

The funds are being accumulated by charging countries slightly more for loans and by paying wealthier countries slightly less for the use of their funds.

Growth
At the same time, the report said there had been some progress on the global economic front with continued expansion in world output and trade but that profound problems remained.

It said that economic growth in the industrial countries

accelerated in 1987 and has even been stronger in 1988.

At the same time, the report said that inflation, which has been falling for a number of years, continued to remain at a fairly low level so far this year.

"Nevertheless, despite these positive aspects of the world economic situation, there is no room for complacency," the report said.

Officials briefing reporters said the IMF was particularly upset that the healthy expansion in the industrial countries had not yet shown up in the Third World to any great extent.

Better
"We still have a relatively weak economic performance in the heavily indebted middle-income countries as well as in the large number of relative small, low-income countries," an official said.

He said that in a number of respects the global economy was getting better but "in other very important respects it is disappointing."

The report was issued ahead of the annual meeting of the fund and World Bank in West Berlin from September 22 to 29.

Crisis
The report noted that eight countries had been declared ineligible for new assistance by the fund because they have been in arrears on their loan payments for well over a year.

They are Peru, Sudan, Liberia, Guyana, Vietnam, Zambia, Sierra Leone, and Somalia.

In addition, three other countries — Honduras, Panama and Haiti — are at least six months in

arrears and others are being closely watched, according to diplomatic sources.

For IMF officials, this is an unprecedented situation and is symptomatic of the intractable nature of the debt crisis.

"While there has been some improvement since it hit in 1982, the debt bomb is still causing devastating damage in the Third World," an official said.

The report said the total dollar value of developing country debt rose by 10.4 per cent in 1987 to \$1.22 trillion, mainly because of a drop in the value of the dollar.

This increase, despite belt-tightening and other economic measures, seemed to make it even more unlikely that countries would be able to grow their way out of their debt problems any time soon.

Lending
At the same time, new lending by commercial banks has fallen sharply, and the IMF itself is taking more money out of the debtor countries in loan repayments than it is putting in through new credits.

IMF officials said the report also seemed to rule out an agreement soon on a new allocation of Special Drawing Rights (SDR), the IMF's own currency that countries can use as reserves to pay their bills.

Cash-starved developing countries have been pressing for a vast increase in the volume of SDRs but some industrial countries, including the United States, have expressed concern that this would add to global economic liquidity and increase inflationary pressures.

Imports drop sharply

US trade deficit plunges to 4-year low

WASHINGTON, Sept 14. (AP): The US merchandise trade deficit shrank to \$9.5 billion in July, the lowest monthly imbalance since December 1984, the government reported today.

The Commerce Department said the dramatic 28 per cent improvement in the trade deficit reflected a small increase in exports and a big decline in imports.

The latest trade deficit was certain to cheer Republican presidential candidate George Bush, who has been trying to deflect charges from Democrat Michael Dukakis that the country's soaring trade deficits demonstrate a major flaw in President Ronald Reagan's economic programme.

Boost
The July deficit was substantially better than economists had expected. The government did, however, boost the June deficit to \$13.2 billion from the originally reported \$12.5 billion.

The June deficit was the biggest trade shortfall since a \$14.4 billion deficit in February, a figure that had sent the Dow Jones industrial average tum-

bling by 100 points.

The July deficit was likely to have an opposite effect. Indeed, even before the number was reported, optimistic remarks by Treasury Secretary-designate Nicholas Brady set off a last-minute Wall Street buying spree on Tuesday. He said he expected the trade deficit will decline at a "surprisingly fast" pace over the next few months, a remark investors interpreted as a hint that today's report would be encouraging.

Down
For the first seven months of this year, the US trade deficit has been running at an annual average of \$13.7 billion, down 19.3 per cent from the record \$176.3 billion deficit suffered in 1987.

The significant narrowing in the trade deficit this year has been a major factor behind the economy's better-than-expected economic performance. Analysts said more than half of all economic growth this year is coming from the narrowing trade gap.

US exports are booming as the weaker dollar has made

American goods competitive once again on world markets, a factor that has helped push factory operating rates to the highest level in eight years.

The \$9.5-billion July imbalance between exports and imports was only the second single-digit deficit in the last three years and was the lowest since an \$8.03-billion deficit in December 1984. The deficit had declined to \$9.76 billion in May.

Drop
The July improvement reflected a big 8.9 per cent drop in imports, which declined to \$35.99 billion from a record June figure of \$39.50 billion.

Exports were up by a smaller 0.7 per cent to \$26.5 billion keeping them near the record levels they have been at for the last several months.

The big drop in imports came primarily in big-ticket capital goods, which dropped by \$1.2 billion to \$8 billion. This category had risen sharply the previous month as US companies had looked abroad for the equipment needed to expand their own production facilities. Also dropping sharply in July

were car imports, which fell by \$803 million, with almost all of that decline coming from a drop in shipments of cars from Canada.

On the export side, the improvement reflected increases in a variety of products, led by a \$600-million rise in sales of capital goods.

Biggest
As usual, the country suffered its biggest deficit with Japan, a \$4.4-billion imbalance, which was unchanged from June. The deficit with Western Europe rose to \$2.3 billion from \$1.9 billion in June. The deficits with Taiwan and Canada were unchanged at \$1.2 billion and \$1.1 billion respectively.

With the release of today's report, the government resumed a practice abandoned in 1979 of simultaneously reporting the import figures with the cost of shipping and insurance removed.

Using this system, the deficit for July would have been an even lower \$8.07 billion, down from a June imbalance, minus shipping and insurance, of \$11.7 billion.

Urgent steps needed to arrest slide in oil prices

VIENNA, Sept 14. (OPECNA): Urgent steps have to be taken to arrest the downward slide in oil prices, OPEC said today.

In a statement marking the 28th anniversary of the founding of OPEC, the organisation noted that no one, whether within or outside OPEC, would wish to see a repetition of "the traumatic events of 1986."

The statement pointed out that OPEC is encouraging all member countries to strictly abide by their assigned production levels.

"However, the fact remains that the fundamental changes in the structure of the oil industry have been such that, whilst OPEC is still a power which cannot be ignored, the size of its production no longer makes it possible for the organisation to shoulder the heavy burden of defending oil price stability alone."

The statement urged all producers, OPEC and non-OPEC, developing and developed, to share the responsibility for market stability from which "everybody, producers and consumers alike, will ultimately benefit."

Achievements
Today marks the twenty-eighth anniversary of the founding of the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) — an organisation whose far-reaching achievements during its relatively short span of existence have surpassed the expectations of not only its adversaries, but also its founding fathers.

Despite OPEC's many positive achievements, however, the current decade has brought with it some very serious

problems for the organisation, making it perhaps the most difficult period in its history. These difficulties, which centre around the ways and means of stabilising the volatile oil market at prices that are fair to both producers, within and outside OPEC, and consumers, are still very much present today.

Prices
As so often in the past, both depressing and heartening developments for the organisation have been witnessed in 1988. The year began inauspiciously, with the impact of an oil glut which had become apparent in the second half of 1987 being carried over into the new year. Excessive supplies of oil, as well as accelerated stock-building by consumers, combined to threaten the price stability which OPEC had managed to restore to

the market with its return to a fixed price regime at the beginning of 1987.

As a result, prices which had been climbing steadily towards — and on occasions even exceeding — the organisation's reference price of \$18 per barrel, began to falter and fall back.

Relations
The first half of 1988 then witnessed a significant new development with far-reaching implications for the international oil industry. This was the far-sighted action taken by a group of leading non-OPEC oil producers to meet with OPEC to discuss cooperating with the organisation in its hitherto, almost single-handed efforts to stabilise the world oil market. This gesture represented the first concrete sign that OPEC's unremitting pleas to other producers for

cooperation were ultimately bearing fruit.

An historic meeting between OPEC and seven non-OPEC oil producing countries in April 1988 represented a milestone in OPEC/non-OPEC relations, and helped lay the foundation for future dialogue and cooperation between a large number of oil producers, in an atmosphere of mutual trust.

All the countries present at this gathering agreed on the importance of meeting, and that a stable oil market was the responsibility of all parties engaged in the industry, with the burden — consequently — to be shared by all.

It was also agreed that such an initial meeting should be followed by continued contact to review the agreements that were arrived at and to plan future avenues of cooperation.

Sharp drop in bank loans to farmers

KARACHI, Sept 14: Bank loans for the farmers have dropped sharply in the current fiscal year, which has badly affected the off-take of inputs by the small farmers, reports Dawn.

In the month of July this year, total bank loans for farmers came down to a mere Rs71 million as against Rs283 million given by the banks to agriculturists in the same month last year.

As a consequence, the farmers complain, there has been a sharp slump in the off-take of inputs like fertiliser, pesticides and quality seeds. They fear this could affect the overall output in both kharif and rabi.

These facts were brought forth at a meeting of the senior executives of the banks and representatives of the farmers held on Monday at the State Bank of Pakistan.

Drop
The meeting considered an eight-point agenda, including the reasons for sharp decline in disbursement of agricultural loans.

President of the Sind Chamber of Agriculture Syed Qamaruz-zaman Shah who attended the

meeting, attributed the sharp drop in farm loans to the abrupt policy of switching over to interest bearing loans from the mark-up system.

The interest bearing loans for the small farmers were reintroduced by the government from this fiscal year after the announcement of the budget.

The Federal Finance Minister Dr Mahbub-ul-Haq, has on a number of occasions expressed the view that small farmers loan scheme based on mark-up system was being misused by the big farmers.

Scheme
Syed Qamaruz-zaman said his main argument in the meeting with bank officials was that genuine small farmers should not be deprived of the government's concessional credit scheme just because it was being misused by some people.

Instead, he suggested the reintroduction of the original production loan scheme in which farmers of subsistence holdings were provided a package of inputs at a rate of Rs 1,000 per acre with a maximum limit of Rs 12,000.

Applications for these loans were processed through the relevant agencies which in case of sugarcane growers were the sugar mills, for paddy growers rice husking mills, and for cotton farmers the ginneries. These agencies adjusted the loan amount at the time of payment to the growers.

Farmers are now groaning under the thrust of a double edged sword. Syed Qamaruz-zaman Shah complained, referring to the problems created by the introduction of Supervised Credit Scheme last October which, he said, had restricted the availability of credit for farmers from only one bank branch of his area.

From the current fiscal year, the government withdrew the loans given on mark-up basis and reintroduced the interest bearing loans which made capital availability from small farmers expensive.

The SCA president hoped that farmers' problems would be attended to in the Federal Committee on Agriculture likely to meet sometime at the end of this month or early next month.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 14/9/88			
B No	Ships Name	Agent	Tel.
1	Shireen	UASC	4843150
4	Takub	KSA	4843150
5	Croesus	GH&Q	4747815
8	Tug Amsterdam	G. Star	4845501
9	Berge Maryam		
13	Maersk Astro	Behbehani	2412085
19	Sheriffos	ISA	2441860
FD	Dimitrios	KMMC	2419814
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ships Name	Agent	Tel.
14/9	Mallow Everett	ISA	2441860
15/9	Pelagos	YAAS	4745533
14/9	Ibn Shuhaid	KSA	4843150
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B No	Ships Name	Agent	Tel.
2	Trade Fair	M.A. Bahar	2459891
3	Uco-XVII	S. Shaheen	2432692
11	Seadrive		
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ships Name	Agent	Tel.
15/9	Kyrenia	Barwil	4842988
16/9	Tokyo Bridge	United	2457958
17/9	Roro Andrea Merzario	Al Kamal	2425437
17/9	Al Wajba	UASC	4843150
20/9	Al Noor	M.A. Bahar	2459891
21/9	Great Liberty	Al Kamal	2425437
COMPILED BY:			
Alghanim Barber Shipping Co. PO Box 21708-Safat-Kuwait, Alghanim Industries Building-Shuwaikh-Airport Road, Tel. 4842988, 4843988, ext. 3614, 3628			

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Sept 14. (Reuters): The share market closed sharply higher in fairly active trade, as local and overseas demand for blue chip industrials boosted the main index. The All-Ordinaries index closed 18.8 points up at 1,549.4.

TOKYO: Prices closed mixed after fluctuating in a narrow range throughout the day in active volume. The Nikkei index rose 11.51, or 0.04 per cent, to 27,805.67.

HONG KONG: Prices closed slightly higher in continued thin trading with investors sidelined ahead of US trade figures. The Hang Seng index ended 7.98 up at 2,481.57.

SINGAPORE: Shares closed higher across the board but off the day's highs due to some profit-taking in the afternoon. The Straits Times industrial index rose 4.61 points to 1,067.52.

BOMBAY: Shares firmed up further on continued speculative and institutional buying. The market remained bullish, unperturbed by four successive holidays ahead.

FRANKFURT: Shares closed higher in active trading, fuelled by heavy domestic buying and news the Faz index had finally broken through 500 points, a major resistance level.

PARIS: Prices ended the continuous session sharply up in very busy trading boosted by favourable US trade data and hectic stakebuilding in luxury goods group LVMH. The 50-share indicator posted a 2.01 per cent gain.

ZURICH: Prices closed firmer but early gains in blue chips were trimmed by profit-taking. Activity was moderate during most of the session. The Swiss index closed 5.8 points higher at 885.6.

"Our sales are so recent and so comparatively small that we thought we wouldn't be noticed," a manufacturer said.

"But in June the Americans suddenly began talking about quotas. These could be far lower than the existing UAE capacity and would knock expansion plans on the head."

"We are asking the government to get the best possible deal for us," Banna said.

A US embassy official said annual quotas the Reagan administration was seeking on cotton shirts, trousers and other garments would not be lower than a year's imports to the end of March 1988.

Indian and other foreign groups own many of the more than 20 clothing factories in Dubai's showpiece Jebel Ali free zone.

"A blow to the garment industry would be also a blow to the free zone," a Western banker said.

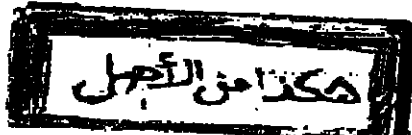
Since it was set up in 1985 the zone, rated a success by businessmen using it, has attracted about 200 companies.

Development plan approved

ABU DHABI, Sept 14. (Reuters): The Abu Dhabi executive council yesterday approved a development plan to meet construction, economic and social needs for the next 20 years, officials said.

They gave no cost figures for the plan, to be implemented in co-operation with the UN Development Programme (UNDP).

Abu Dhabi, the largest oil producer in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with annual oil revenues exceeding \$5 billion, has spent about \$60 billion on development since 1970.



Dear Junior Readers,

You know, I really cannot understand why I have received so little from you in the way of pictures, poems and ideas. I honestly thought that with all that time on your hands during the summer holiday, you would be only too ready to do something creative. Seems I was wrong! On the other hand, it could have been that the summer heat and general feelings of laziness put you out of action. Perhaps now you are back in the swing of things at school, you will be "inspired" and the cooler weather that is on its way will help to blow the cobwebs off those tired brains of yours! I certainly hope so! Remember what I said about making the Junior Times YOUR page.

By the way, the address of the newspaper is at the bottom of the back page—so you cannot use the excuse of not knowing where to send your work!

Auntie Jayne.

Happy birthday

Sunny will celebrate his 4th birthday on 18th September. Best wishes and lots of love, Sunny, from Daddy, Mummy and Granny.



Solution to Tuesday's geography quiz

1. (i) New Zealand. (ii) Wellington.
2. (i) United States of America. (ii) Washington D.C.
3. An amphitheatre in Rome.
4. The Temple of the Athena on the Acropolis, Athens.
5. Kuala Lumpur.
6. Moscow, Russia.
7. River Seine.
8. (i) Corsica. (ii) St. Helena.
9. (i) Great Geyser. (ii) In Iceland near Reykjavik.
10. Port Said.
11. Istanbul... and it was originally "Byzantium." It is a town in Turkey but is not the capital. Ankara is the capital.
12. Adriatic Sea (on Gulf of Trieste, but at head of Adriatic).
13. Copenhagen... capital and largest city of Denmark.
14. Hobart.
15. An island in the Leeward Islands in the West Indies. (St. Christopher.)
16. A system of stars in the sky (galaxy). A luminous "band" of very distant stars, not separately distinguishable to the human eye. We are part of this galaxy.
17. Russia (U.S.S.R.).
18. Malta.

ONCE upon a time there was a woman who was very unkind to her husband. She disagreed with every wish he expressed. If he said it was a nice day, she replied that it was horrible, but if he said it was a dull day she said it was beautiful. She contradicted every word of his.

Poor man, he did not know what to do to please her! One day he went for a walk in the woods and he met a little mouse.

"Oh Little Mouse! How happy you must be!" said the man. "Nobody to order you about, nobody to worry you so that you don't know a blade of grass from a barley stalk."

"Oh Man! How foolish you are! You have the sun, you have the rain and the flowers. You don't have to work hard to find the corn to eat. I wish I were you, Man. You are beautiful with your shaggy hair and your brown arms like the earth itself."

"Now, I've never been called beautiful before," thought the man, staring at the little mouse's fine silky fur.

"I will come and sweep your rooms and care for you, O Man," said the mouse. "I have long wanted to see a house where humans live."

So that was why the little mouse went home with the man, nestled in his pocket. When the wife grumbled the mouse whispered words of encouragement. When the wife threw a plate at the man, the little mouse laughed and cheered.

"Don't dare laugh at me," scolded the wife, and she did not throw any more things at the man because she thought he had enjoyed her anger.

But the little mouse, who slept in a corner of the kitchen, got up at dawn the

next day, and swept the floor and washed it with scraps of rags. She polished and cleaned, and made all bright and neat.

The man came down to make his wife a cup of tea, and he was surprised at what he saw. Clean cups were placed on the table, the teapot was shining, the tea-leaves cleared away, and the fire was laid with neat little sticks not much bigger than matches.

"Is it a fairy?" he asked. "I used to believe in them when I was a child, and I think one has been here."

Then the little mouse leapt on the table and bowed to him.

"Oh, it's you, my dear," said he, stroking her fur. "I might have guessed, but I didn't know you were so clever."

But the wife grumbled more than ever. She thought her husband had done the housework, so she piled more labours upon him.

"You stupid man," she cried. "Why didn't you cook extra for me?" she asked crossly, and she threw the toast across the floor in her anger, as she saw her husband quietly eating his breakfast without her. "Why didn't you call me? You've been very quick to-day."

"It is a surprise for both of us," he murmured, half laughing as he spied the little mouse under the table.

"Surprise," echoed the wife. "I'll surprise you. I'm going out to-day and you can look after yourself."

She cooked her meal and then dressed in her best and left the house, calling: "Now get the washing-up done and the kitchen cleaned, and the beds made and all tidied up before I return."

"Very well, my dear," said the man meekly. "You

The shrew



know that I have to go to my own work, don't you, to earn money for both of us?"

"Bah," cried the woman. "Do as I tell you!" She flounced out and banged the door.

"Never mind," whispered a small voice, as the little mouse came dancing out of the shadows. "I can manage. I can get my friends to help. You go off, dear sir."

The man was a market gardener, and he went to his garden to dig and sow and gather fruit and tend his crops.

When he came in for dinner, there was a white cloth laid and a good meal was ready.

The mouse had made a salad, using all the sweet green plants she could find in the little garden, leaves the man had never tasted before, but all mixed together so beautifully that

it was a dish for a king.

The mouse sat on the table and she helped the man to her dishes, bringing from her pocket a small silver spoon.

"This spoon belonged to my mother," said the mouse. "It is enchanted. Everything it touches gets a taste of delicious moonshine and magic."

"See," she continued. "I stir a bowl of flour and currants and it makes a delicious cake."

As she spoke she made the cake, and the man took it for his tea, after giving a piece to the little mouse.

All afternoon he worked at his market garden, and this time the little mouse went in his pocket. She gave him good advice about his plants, and she brought him seeds of chervil and basil and other herbs for him to sow.

"When these grow you

can sell them," said she. "People like herbs and they will put them in their dull food to flavour the dishes."

At last it was time to go home, and the man set off joyfully with the little mouse in his pocket.

His wife was there when he returned. She looked suspiciously at him.

"You managed to tidy up as well as go to work," said she, sourly. "I always knew you were lazy. But the house looks as if you have had somebody to help you. Who is it?"

"Wouldn't you like to know," laughed the man and the little mouse giggled in his pocket and tickled his fingers which were stroking her.

The woman was white with rage. She searched the house for some trace of the helper, but of course she found nothing. Not a footprint, or a finger mark. Then she found the little silver spoon, which the mouse had left in a cup on the dresser. She picked up the tiny object with a cry of excitement.

"Where has this come from?" she cried, and the man sprang to his feet and tried to take it from her.

"That's mine," said he. "Give it to me."

"No, it's mine," said the woman. "I will sell it and get some money to buy a new dress, for you never give anything."

"Don't sell it," pleaded the man. "You know, my dear, you have all my money to do as you like with, and you can buy a dress with what I earned today. It was my lucky day."

He brought a handful of money and put it on the table, and held out his hand for the spoon. But his wife would not let it go.

She made the tea, and stirred the teapot with the spoon, muttering to her-

self.

"May I shrivel and shrink to a cinder sooner than you shall have this spoon," she muttered. Then she began to shrink, smaller and smaller. Soon she was down to a speck of a woman on the chair, but her face began to change too, her dress became fur, her eyes were tiny beads of light, and a small stumpy little shrew-mouse sat there.

"Oh dear me! What has happened?" she cried, and she leapt down and ran off to the woods, leaving the spoon behind her.

Then the man took the mouse from his pocket and put her on the table.

"How did you manage to do that magic on my wife?" he asked.

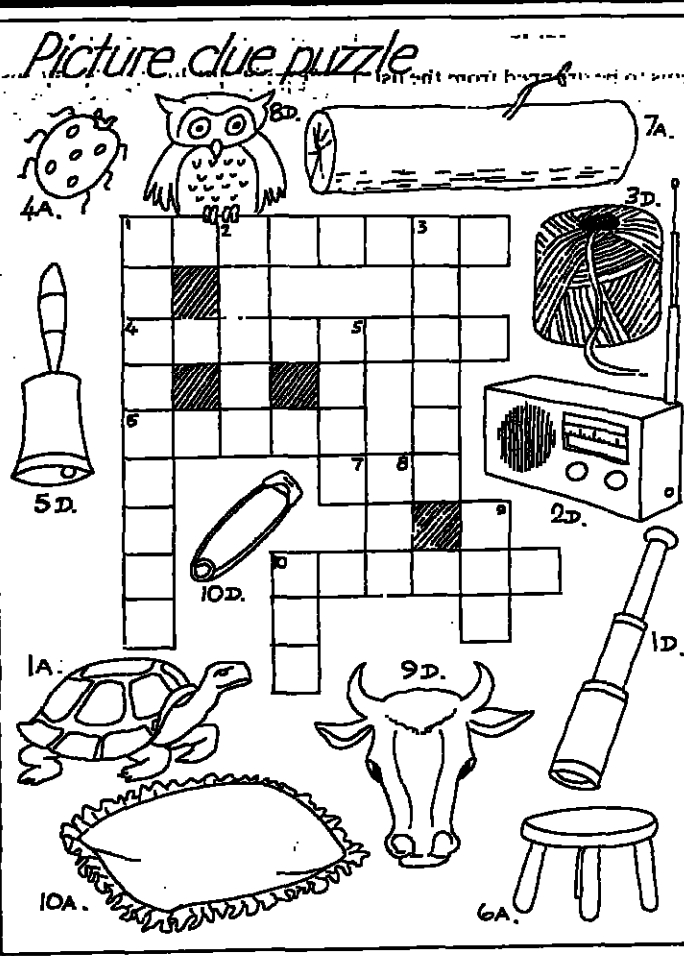
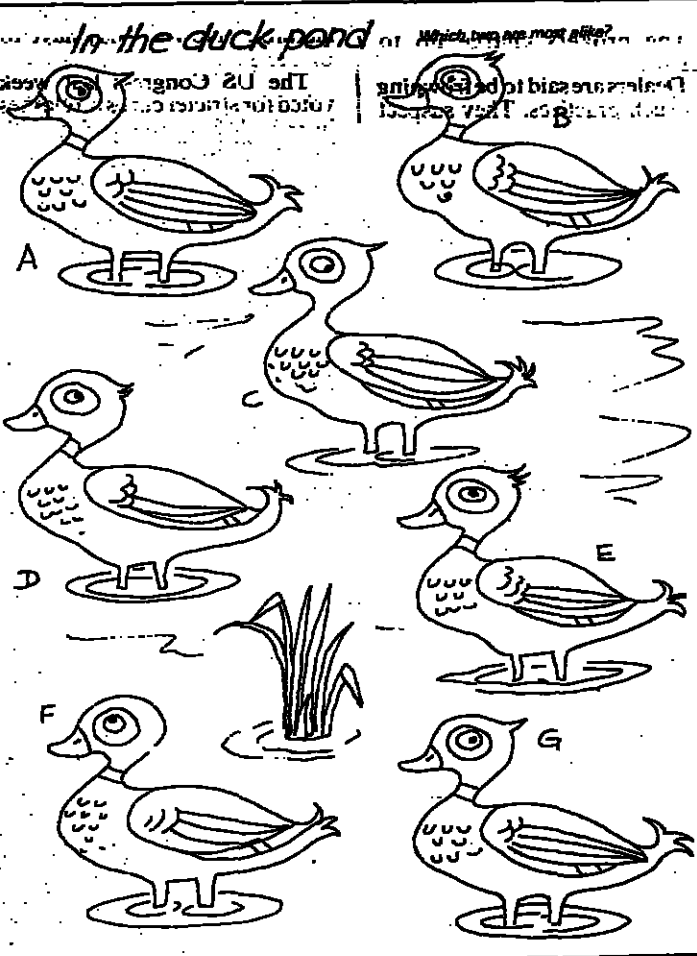
"It was the spoon, that can change man to his own character. Now your wife is a shrew-mouse, a fighting fierce little shrew, and she will find her match among the shrews in the fields and woods, for nobody will work for her."

The little mouse took the silver spoon from the cup of tea and wiped it on her fur. Then she made a brew of her own, a scented brew of tansy and lavender and rosemary and ferns. She stirred the faintly smelling drink with her spoon and whispered some words over it which the man could not catch.

She grew taller and taller, her fur turned to delicate white skin, her hair was long and golden. She was a beautiful girl who sat there, in a dress of flower-petals.

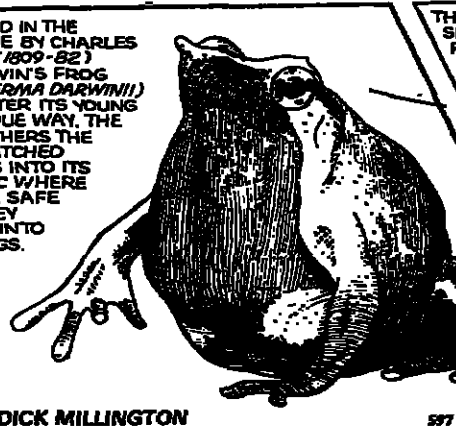
"Oh, lovely creature," said the man, "will you marry me?"

"Yes, my dear. I loved you the moment I saw you walking so full of sorrow in the woods. Your wife has gone for ever, and you are free."



Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS

DISCOVERED IN THE ARGENTINE BY CHARLES DARWIN (1809-82) THE DARWIN'S FROG (RHINODERMA DARWINII) LOOKS AFTER ITS YOUNG IN A UNIQUE WAY. THE MALE GATHERS THE NEWLY HATCHED TADPOLES INTO ITS VOCAL SAC WHERE THEY ARE SAFE UNTIL THEY DEVELOP INTO TINY FROGS.



THERE ARE ABOUT 500 SPECIES OF TREE FROGS FOUND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THE LARGEST BEING THE GIANT TREE FROG FROM THE WEST INDIES, 17 CM. TALL, WHICH AVERAGES 3.6 CM. IN LENGTH. TO THE TINY LEAST TREE FROG (HYALOCICHLARIS) (0.6 CM. LONG) OF THE SOUTHERN UNITED STATES.



THE COMMON TOAD (BUFO BUFO) HAS BEEN FOUND AT AN ALTITUDE OF 20,000 FT. (6000 M.) AND AT A DEPTH OF 1115 FT. (340 M.) IN A COAL MINE.

Ha! Ha!

What kind of party do prisoners like most of all?
A going-away party.

What did the psychiatrist say on a busy day?
"It's like a madhouse in here."

"Doctor, have you got something for my liver?"
"How about some onions?"

Why do birds in a nest always agree?
Because they don't want to fall out.

"Don't be afraid. This dog will eat off your hand."
"That's what I'm afraid of."

JIMMY: Dad, may I have another apple?
FATHER: Another? They don't grow on trees, you know.

When did the first two vowels appear?
Before U and I were born.

What is the difference between a copying machine and the measles?
One makes facsimiles and other makes sick families.

What do you get if you cross a giraffe with a dog?
An animal that barks at aeroplanes.

Why does a barber never shave a man with a wooden leg?
Because he always uses a razor.

Wally from Down Under comes out tops



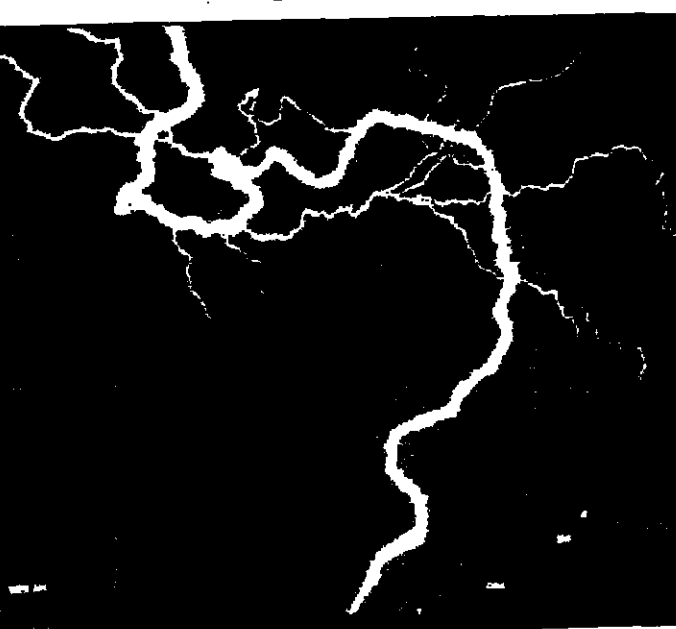
Wally the wallaby is only ten weeks old, but he's quickly learning how to stand tall and look the world in the eye. Rejected by his mother, Wally is being hand reared by zookeeper Angela Potter, who made him a "pouch" out of an old sweater and feeds him six times a day on evaporated milk from a tiny bottle. She even takes him to bed at night to keep him warm!

Why electrical charges form in the sky

The clouds which mass in the sky before a storm become charged with electricity through passing over strata of air at different temperatures. As a general rule positive charges prevail at high cloud levels and negative charges at low levels.

When the heavily charged clouds descend towards the Earth, the latter, through the phenomenon of induction, becomes charged with electricity of opposite sign. Two electromagnetic fields, often of very great extent, are thus formed. At this point the negative charges are strongly impelled to discharge towards the positive charges, because opposite charges attract one another. However the air offers a strong obstacle to the passage of electrical charges as it is not a good conductor of electricity. It undergoes a rapid process of ionization which creates conditions which permit the passage of minute electrical charges erupt through the ionized zones in perfect

The why of science



and rapid succession but we see them as one long, forked and twisted discharge. We call it lightning.

Lightning passes not only from the clouds to the Earth, but also in the opposite direction, and goes, too, from cloud to cloud, although this is rare. It is often followed by that other phenomenon, thun-

der. Why electricity is transmitted at high tension The use of electricity has reached enormous proportions. Consequently there arose a need to transport electricity to ever greater distances. This raised a serious problem. Direct current had to be transmitted at the output voltage of the dynamo which

produced it, but because of the electrical resistance of the wires along which it passed there was a considerable drop in the voltage after a short distance. This meant that some of the power was lost along the way. It was not possible to reduce the resistance by increasing the thickness of the wire as this would have made the wires impossibly large and heavy.

To overcome these losses, the use of alternating current was introduced, as alternating current can be transported at the desired high voltages.

As the loss of power of electrical energy during its passage along wires is caused by the amount of current and as the carrying potential is equal to the current multiplied by the tension, we are able by increasing the tension to transport large amounts of current using relatively thin wires.

At the points where the electricity is to be used suitable transformers are connected to reduce the voltage to a less dangerous level, such as 240 volts which is normal for domestic use in Britain.

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION

Available

SALMIYA, in front of Shaab Park. One separate bedroom, one sitting room and kitchen equipped with AC and tile. All facilities available for ladies only. Rent KD80 (fixed). Tele 5635684, 2-10 pm. (AT4-43878-3)

KUWAIT City, Sharq, behind Al Firdous Cinema beside the Nooriya Saloon. House No. 117. Accommodation for a family. Tele Mr. Ezzat, 2445213, 8 am - 4:30 pm. (AT4-43897-3)

SALMIYA, near the Indian and Pakistani schools. One room for a family or bachelors. Contact Building No. 19, Road No. 329, between 6-9 pm. Al Rumhi Driving School, same building. (AT4-43886-3)

KUWAIT City, above Hardees. One room for one or two persons. Tele. Mr. Jackson, 4811632, 8 am - 5 pm. (AT5-43921-2)

For Rent

SALWA, Area 6, behind Gulf English School, opp. Al Mujahid Alahli School. 3 bedrooms, 1 large hall, 2 bathrooms and kitchen, with CAC and direct supply of gas. Tele: 5617770, 5642773 (AT4-43767-3)

JABRIYA, first floor of deluxe villa with 3 bedrooms, 2 sitting rooms, 3 bathrooms, kitchen and sunglass balcony. Tele. 5321666. (AT6-43935-3)

OLD KHEITAN, Faisal Abdul Aziz Street, No. 49, Area 327. One floor of a villa with separate entrance. Tele Mr. Abdullah 4848733, mornings; 4741110 evenings. (AT4-43901-3)

FOR SALE

Cars

MAZDA 929 GLX, 1985, brown, 5-speed, manual, Mazda garage maintained, insured upto March, 1988. One owner, KD750, cash. Tele. Mr. Jones, 4710222, office, 3715197, home. (AT6-43945-2)

NISSAN Stanza 82, fully automatic, 67,000 kms, well maintained, with sunroof, 4 doors and hatchback. KD650, ono. Tele. 2426613. (AT6-TM-1)

MERCEDES BENZ 250, 1984, automatic with full options in very good condition, maintained by agent. Tele. 5711641. (AT4-43905-3)

MITSUBISHI Colt '82 model, registered upto Sept 1989, in excellent condition. Owner leaving Kuwait. Best offers. Tele. Mr. Mahfouz, 2543000, 2546958, 8 am - 2 pm, 5622895, 2:30 pm onwards. (AT5-43863-2)

TOYOTA Corolla '86 model, automatic, low mileage with AC, radio cassette in good condition. Tele. 2401514, 9032048. (AT6-43925-2)

MITSUBISHI Colt GLX, 84 model, automatic, white, with 4 doors, hatchback and AC, in good condition. KD900 or KD 98 by monthly instalments. Tele. 5385094. (AT6-43943-3)

TOYOTA Land Cruiser LX, 1985 model, air conditioned, automatic, 47000 kms, in excellent condition. KD 2,500 cash. Tele. CB or George, 5339274, 4 - 10 pm. (AT6-43941-3)

SUBARU 1987, AC, automatic transmission, sliding electric sunroof, power windows, power locks, digital dashboard, luxurious interior. In excellent condition. KD300 for owner, KD79x30 instalments. Tele. 4749853. (AT5-43917-2)

PLYMOUTH, Reliant, 1981, manual with AC, 4 cylinder, registered upto January '89. In good condition. KD200 cash. Tele. Mr. Mufti, 4311588, ext 1140 after 8 am anytime. (AT5-43924-2)

TOYOTA 4Runner, 1987, manual, grey 4 WD, 24,000 kms, in very good condition. One lady owner leaving Kuwait. KD4300 cash. KD500/-, KD118 monthly by 33 instalments. Tele Betty, 5312700 ext 2138. (AT4-43895-3)

TOYOTA 4Runner 1985, 4-wheel drive, manual with AC. In very good condition. KD1700, cash. Tele. 5719145. (AT5-43911-3)

IMPALA 1982, 65,000 kms, white, registered upto June 1989. Owner leaving. Car can be seen in Farwaniya on Thursdays after 4 pm and Friday after 9 am. Best cash offer. Tele. 4719190. (AT6-43928-2)

NISSAN Sunny '83 model, automatic, with AC, 2 doors and hatchback, in very good condition. KD650. Tele. 5385094. (AT6-43943-3)

Miscellaneous

TUNTURI exercise bike for sale. As new. Tele. 5384873. (AT5-43914-3)

SHAAB area, 2 bedroom spacious flat for sale with AC units, carpets and other household items. Available from 1st October. Rent KD150. Tele. 2659174, after 3:30 pm. (AT4-43889-3)

CLEARANCE sale, Sunday 18th September. Various small household items, also TV, video and ladies clothes, English size 10. Tele. 5711209 evenings only. (AT5-43919-3)

BABYCOOT, car seat and carrying/seating chair. All are in excellent condition. Tele. 5644956, mornings. (AT6-HIBA-TM-3)

SALWA, first floor of a villa with separate entrance, 2 rooms, dining and living rooms, 3 bathrooms, kitchen, CAC with or without furniture for sale. Rent KD300 monthly. Tele. Mr. Mansour, 4713944, 5620860. (AT6-43937-3)

MARKET PLACE

HONDA beach buggy, red, in very good condition. Tele. 4847671/4845059. (AT6-ASL-TM-3)

Computers

AMSTRAD 8512 twin disc with mono screen and printer (not IBM). Comes with various programmes, including spell checker, the ideal word processor in good condition. KD 225. Tele. Mr. Nigel, 5616501, after 5 pm. (AT4-43910-3)

APPLE II C, with monitor, external disc drive, telephone modem, joystick, Mouse with software, free adventure software. Basic tutor and manual disc. Tele. 4847671/4845059. (AT6-43938-3)

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PASSPORT No. E 169570 in the name of Abdul Hamid Mohammed Yusuf. Finder please tele. 2419032, 4833114. (AT5-43918-3)

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MAID required, for a small English family with one child, to live-in, in Sulaibikhat. Must be English speaking, good with children, and have a transferable residence. Tele. Sally, 4875260, 4-9 pm. (AT5-43915-3)

MAID required for an English family, to live-in. Must be able to cook and have a transferable residence. Tele. 5636642. (AT6-43944-2)

MAID required for a small family, to live-in. Must speak English. Good salary. Tele. 2451493, 2451494, 9 am - 4:30 pm. (AT6-43922-2)

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ELECTRICAL engineer. A young Indian, with a Bachelor of Engineering, seeks suitable position. Please write to Mr. Jacob George, B.E. P.O. Box 9021, 61001, Ahmadi, Kuwait. (AT4-43896-3)

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NURSERY and tuitions for std. V and VI available in Salmiya. Tele. 5636113, 9 am - 1 pm. (AT5-43916-3)

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REQUIRED from the Sunshine School, Salwa, to the Zoo, Omariya, at 2:15 pm (one way only). Tele. Mrs. James, 4734168, Mr. James, 4730824. (AT5-43913-3)

REQUIRED from Salmiya (near the garden on 5th Ring Road) to Dasman (near the Sharq Tower), at 8 am and at 6 pm. Tele. Rajendra, 5623545, 8 am - 10 pm. (AT6-43933-2)

REQUIRED from Shaab (next to Claude Maxime) to Hilton Hotel, Saturday to Wednesday, going at 7:30 am and returning at 12:30 pm. Tele. 2633968. (AT4-43902-3)

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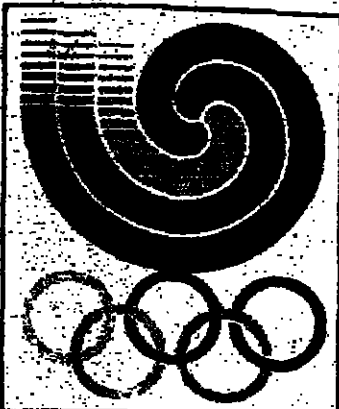
1

هكذا من النحل

100

100

هكذا من النظم



Iraq uncovers plot against Olympic team

BAGHDAD, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Iraq has uncovered a plot by Kurds living abroad to assassinate its Olympic athletes in a suicide attack in South Korea, a source at the Iraqi Olympic Committee said yesterday.

"Iraqi active security authorities have unmasked a terrorist conspiracy by a group of subversive Kurds living abroad to assassinate the Iraqi team at the Seoul Olympics," the source, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters.

The source said the plotters had obtained the help of Syria and Iran for the operation, and Iraq knew the identities of those involved.

All 57 Iraqi athletes due to compete in the games — in football, table tennis, track and field, boxing and wrestling — are already in South Korea.

Passed

The source said Oudai Saddam Hussein, eldest son of the Iraqi President and chairman of the Olympic committee, had passed on details of the plot to South Korean diplomats in Baghdad.

"Necessary measures have been taken to strengthen security for Iraqi teams participating in the Olympics."

"Co-ordination has been achieved with the South Korean authorities through the foreign ministry and the Olympic committee," the source said.

No one at the South Korean embassy was available for comment.

Kurdish nationalists have been fighting successive Iraqi governments for autonomy since the 1950s.

"Iraqi forces attacked their stronghold in northern Iraq in July."

Sofia hits back at unfair lobbying claims

SEOUL, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Sofia hit back today at charges of unfair lobbying the day before the venue for the 1994 Winter Olympics is chosen.

Delegates from the Bulgarian capital, strong favourite to win tomorrow's poll ahead of the three other candidates, Osterund of Sweden, the Norwegian resort of Lillehammer and the Alaskan city of Anchorage, were clearly angered by critical media reports.

Pressure

Bulgarian National Olympic Committee representative Dimitar Ivanov denied Sofia had put pressure on International Olympic Committee (IOC) delegates to award it the event as a reward for Bulgarian efforts to prevent an East bloc boycott of the Seoul Games.

"We have done everything in compliance with the Olympic charter," he told reporters.

"There is not a single case like this. We have nothing to do with such reports."

E. Germans move into Olympic gear

EAST BERLIN, Sept. 14, (Reuters): East Germany's awesome athletics team has clicked smoothly into Olympic gear with a series of dazzling performances in dreary conditions at the last domestic event before departing for Seoul tomorrow.

Thrilling encounters with the Americans and Russians are in prospect at the Games, the first Olympics featuring all three major athletics powers since 1976. The United States boycotted the 1980 Moscow Games and the communist world stayed away from Los Angeles in 1984.

Heike Drechsler was one of several key East German medal contenders who gave their all at a traditional farewell meeting yesterday despite buffeting cold winds and rain showers.

Record

There were season's bests in the men's discus and women's 4x100 metres and other mouth-watering results from three world record holders — Petra Felke with 74.62 in the javelin, discus thrower Gabriele Reinsch's 74.44 and shot putter Ulf Timmermann's 22.56.

Drechsler managed 7.17 metres in the long jump and then squeezed out world champion Silke Moeller in the 200 metres in a creditable 22.08 seconds.

LOUGANIS AIMS TO REPEAT LOS ANGELES DOUBLE

Lewis and Biondi to command spotlight

SEOUL, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Two athletes, spurred by a single-minded ambition to show they are the swiftest humans on land and in the water, will command the spotlight in the Seoul Olympic Games which explode into action on Saturday.

Four years ago Carl Lewis realised his dream of emulating fellow-American Jesse Owens when he ran and jumped to four gold medals before a fervently patriotic home crowd at the Los Angeles Olympics.

Now Lewis is again the centrepiece of one of the most powerful US track and field teams ever assembled.

Never lacking in self-confidence, the 27-year-old American says he is stronger, wiser and faster than ever as he sets his sights on repeating his 1984 victories in the 100, 200, 4x100 metres relay and long jump.

Avenge

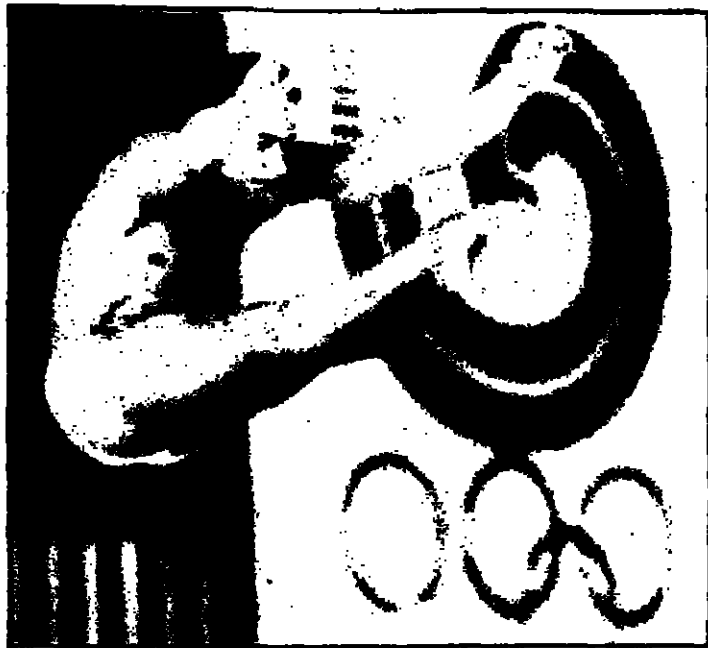
And this time his drive is all the fiercer as he sets out to avenge his defeat by Canadian Ben Johnson in last year's 100 metres final at the World Championships.

While Lewis exudes confidence, his compatriot Matt Biondi is modest in the extreme.

Biondi competes in seven swimming events of which the 50 metres freestyle is the quickest. But he and his coach are quick to counter any talk of matching Mark Spitz's unique sweep of seven gold medals in the 1972 Munich Olympics.

"Ridiculous," his coach Nord Thornton said curtly when quizzed about the possibility of seven titles. "It's impossible."

"I have no idea what it would be like to win gold after gold," Biondi said. "Because I don't



Louganis dives off a platform during a practice session. (Reuters wirephoto)

really see it as being possible."

The highpoint of the swimming programme could be the clash between Biondi and the giant West German Michael Gross in the 200 metres freestyle.

Gross's world record of one minute 47.44 seconds, set when winning gold in Los Angeles, still stands, and the usually dour West German has been in unusually ebullient mood here.

"I feel great," he told reporters on arrival here. "My training has been tremendous."

The medal that means most to Gross though is the 4x200 freestyle relay where he will probably swim the anchor leg against Biondi.

Four years ago Bruce Hayes held off Gross in an electrifying anchor leg to give the United States the narrowest of victories. "This is the only thing missing in my record of success," says Gross.

The excitement and raw power in the pool will contrast sharply with the diving competition where Greg Louganis comes close to turning sport into art. Louganis is aiming to repeat his Los Angeles double on the platform and springboard.

The first clash between US and Soviet-bloc athletes since 1976 — as a result of boycotts in 1980 and 1984 — will be at its starkest in the boxing tournament.

Organisers expect 17,000 athletes and officials to attend Games

Wilander and Bile to stay away

SEOUL, Sept. 14, (Reuters): The Seoul Olympics lost two of its superstars today with the withdrawal of world tennis number one Mats Wilander and the world 1,500 metres champion Aidi Bile.

Swedish team officials said Wilander, who won the US Open on Sunday and topped Czechoslovak Ivan Lendl from the world 1,000 ranking, had pulled out with a leg injury.

He joined West German Boris Becker and Indian Ramesh Krishnan on a growing list of men pulling out of the first Olympic tennis tournament for 64 years.

Bile, a 25-year-old Somali who capped an outstanding season with his overwhelming World Championship win last year, is suffering from a stress fracture of the leg.

His departure leaves the 1,500

metres, the blue ribbon event of track, open to an expected duel between favourite Said Aouita of Morocco, the world record-holder, and Britain's Steve Cram, who has run the fastest time this year.

Watch

Wilander and Bile would be in the South Korean capital to watch the Games, the biggest in the history of the Olympics.

It is the first time for 12 years that all the major sporting nations have attended, following politically-motivated boycotts at Montreal, Moscow and Los Angeles.

Organisers are expecting a record final tally of about 17,000 athletes and officials from 160 countries. Nearly 14,000 have arrived so far and already the numbers are causing problems.

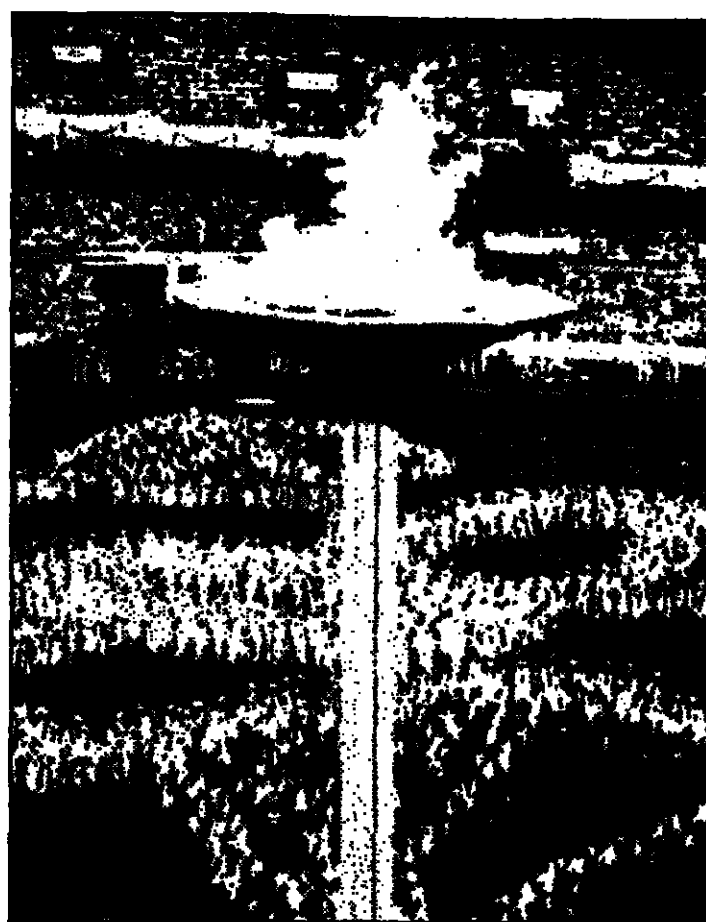
Organisers wanted to stage boxing in two rings simultaneously and to limit the athletes marching behind flags at the opening ceremony. Both plans were scrapped after teams objected.

Seven countries, including Cuba, are staying away. Some are supporting a boycott called by North Korea, thwarted in its bid to jointly stage the Games.

One team that has registered but is having trouble attending is Burma — due to send two marathon runners.

The popular uprising in the country has stopped all flights into Rangoon. Team coach Aye Win, who flew in advance to the Olympic village, said he did not know whether the two runners would arrive.

Three days before the opening ceremony, in the 70,000-seat



The Olympic flame is lit at the Olympic stadium during a rehearsal. (Reuters wirephoto)

The volume of entries may force organisers to use two rings for the first time in the early rounds, although a final decision will not be taken until tomorrow.

The absence of East European boxers from the 1984 Olympic means little is known about their form, although the Bulgarians

are tipped to provide the upsets.

Cuba's absence from the Games also devalues the competition but inevitably the United States have produced a boxer tipped as the next world professional heavyweight champion.

His name is Riddick Bowe, he

IOC seeks removal of restrictions on players

SEOUL, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Soccer may be forced to allow all professionals into the Olympics or risk being thrown out of the Barcelona Summer Games in 1992.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) agreed today to seek talks with the International Football Federation (FIFA) on the removal of all restrictions on players taking part in the Games.

Interested

FIFA has decided that from 1992, only players aged under 23 will be allowed to play in the Olympics.

But Willi Daume, chairman of the IOC eligibility commission, said: "The IOC is not interested in organising a youth tournament even if FIFA wants to guarantee that the World Cup retains priority."

"We must prevent the Olympic Games from becoming a youth games. Nobody considers introducing an age limit in athletics. It would be better to have no soccer tournament than half of one."

In the Olympics starting in

stands 1.96 metres tall, weighs 98 kg and was a schoolmate of world champion Mike Tyson.

Boxing is certain to throw up colourful and controversial characters during its two weeks of action.

But inevitably they will be overshadowed when the athletes competition begins on September 23, six days after the Games' opening ceremony.

No athlete will be more colourfully colourful than exotic American sprinter Florence Griffith-Joyner.

Until this year Griffith-Joyner was known mainly for her vivid self-designed running outfits and her outlandishly long finger nails.

Potential

But she was also an athlete of the highest class with reservoirs of untapped potential as she showed this year by slashing the women's world 100 metres record with an astonishing run at the US trials.

Despite the presence of Lewis, Griffith-Joyner and other prodigiously talented individuals such as Soviet pole vaulter Sergei Bubka, the most dominant figure of the athletes competition could be a slight Moroccan with a track-devouring stride.

Said Aouita, the Olympic and world 5,000 metres champion, has dropped down a distance to the 1,500, traditionally the blue ribbon event of the track programme.

For good measure he has added the 800 to his repertoire and the combination of rare natural gifts and dedicated hard work may make him the first person to complete the 800-1,500 double since 1964.

His name is Riddick Bowe, he

Seoul on Saturday, European and South American teams are not allowed to field players who have appeared in the World Cup.

That regulation was always regarded as an unhappy compromise designed to give a better chance to teams from African and Asian countries with fewer prospects of reaching the World Cup finals.

FIFA this year decided to change the rules for future Olympics but opted for the age limit because it wanted to ensure that its World Cup finals, staged every four years, did not lose its status as the world's top sports event outside the Summer Games.

Soccer professionals have begun to appear in recent Games and Seoul looks set to stage the best football tournament seen at an Olympics.

Three times world champions Brazil are sending the team they are grooming for the next World Cup in Italy in two years time and West Germany, for the first time, has suspended its domestic League programme so that many of its best players can take part.

New swimming costumes banned

SEOUL, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Swimming authorities today outlawed new "sealskin-style" costumes Australia had wanted to use at the Seoul Olympics.

The technical swimming committee of the International Swimming Federation (FINA) decided the neoprene costumes could not be used in Seoul because they might give an advantage in buoyancy.

Committee secretary Ross Wales said the committee felt the swimsuits had been introduced

too close to the Olympics, giving other countries no chance to develop something similar.

"It has been determined that we cannot allow the suits to be used in this competition. There is no question the suit is buoyant. It's lighter than water," Wales told journalists.

FINA rules outlaw any device which could aid speed or buoyancy. Wales said the swimming authority hoped to test the suit further to decide whether it might be used by everyone.

Athletes psyche up for success with superstition

SEOUL, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Woe betide Olympic 800 metres champion Joaquim Cruz if he gets out of bed onto his left foot during the Seoul Games.

The Brazilian and his teammates are under orders from team officials to put their right foot first — morning, noon and night.

Why? "It's superstition. Getting out of bed, going into the residence, going to dinner, right foot first. It's for luck, for results," said Brazilian volleyball player Domingos Lampariello. "It would be bad to put your left foot first."

All the athletes at the Olympic Games hope fortune, God or both will be on their side when it comes to competition.

But some do more than others to help things along. In Seoul's Olympic village, home of 13,000 athletes and officials, a superstition, lucky charm, prayer or ritual can be found to suit every culture, religion and sport.

Luck

Gabon's athletes have orders not to put their hands under the beds — it brings bad luck. Some competitors from Papua New Guinea carry rope charms and athletes from the South Pacific island of Tonga hope to draw strength from singing.

The team are planning a get-together with the Jets, a US-based Tongan music group in town for the Games, to psyche themselves up.

The Tongans are very religious. One of the strengths they find in prayer, singing and being together," said Bryn Harris, Australian acting president of Tonga's national Olympic committee.

"The songs are hymns but don't ask me what they mean because they're in Tongan and I don't understand," he said.

Ira Fabian, a 200-metre sprinter from Antigua who strolls around the village playing reggae music on a portable stereo set, has made up his own prayer for success.

"I pray and hope for the best and anybody who slips get licked (beaten)," is his personal chant.

Megan Donnelly insists on being the first member of the US women's hockey team to set foot in the penalty area. Teammate Yolanda Hightower feels best wearing dangling gold earrings and a necklace with a diamond-studded hockey stick.

"Once the referee made me take it all off. I actually played a bad game," said Hightower.

Britain's equestrian team are an equally superstitious breed. Horsewoman Virginia Leng has worn the same boots since 1981 and has dubbed them "old faithfuls", while Jennie Loriston-Clarke has kept to the same socks since 1978.

The British three-day team won't wear anything green while riding in Seoul because they say that colour is bad news.

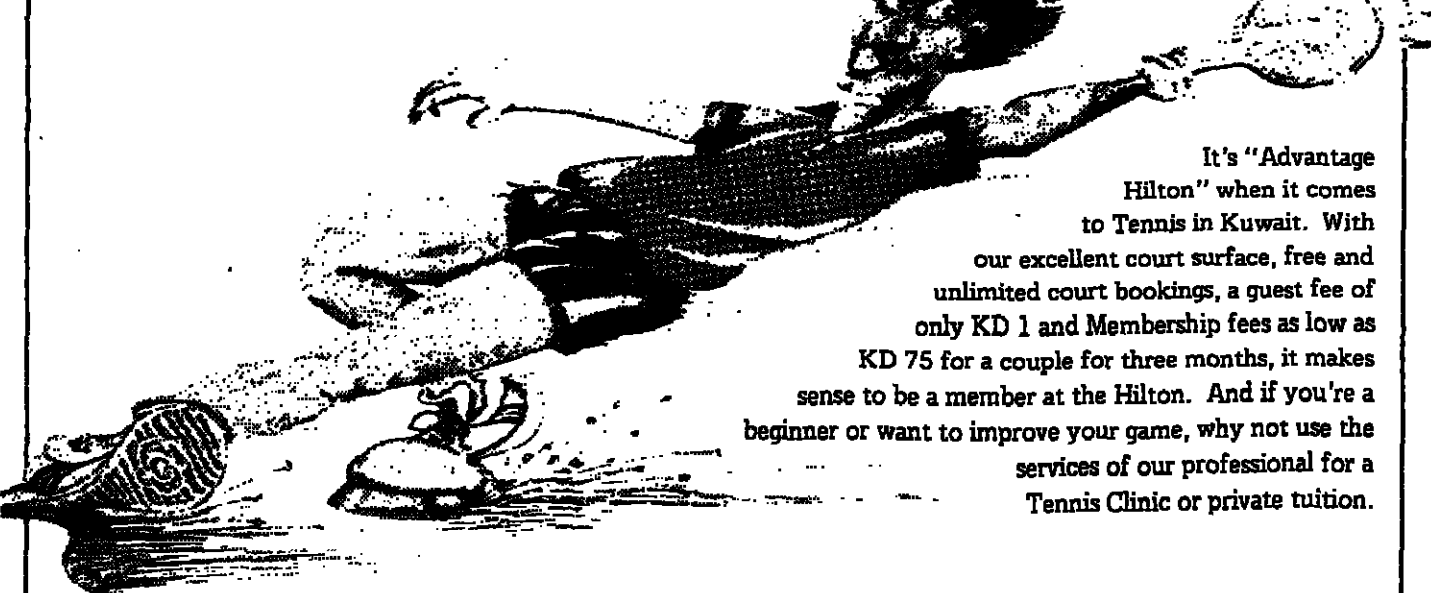
Shave

Swimmers also have their foibles. Many of the men, including American ace Matt Biondi, grow beards in the days leading up to races and shave off the growth with the rest of their body hair just before competition.

"It's part of the ritual. If you shaved your beard every day it would just be routine. But to do it on the day of the race is something special," said Canadian Stephen Vandermeulen.

Jon Sieben, Australia's Olympic butterfly gold medalist, says: "The first time you swim without hair on you it's like going through the water like a torpedo."

Tennis at the Hilton



It's "Advantage Hilton" when it comes to Tennis in Kuwait. With our excellent court surface, free and unlimited court bookings, a guest fee of only KD 1 and Membership fees as low as KD 75 for a couple for three months, it makes sense to be a member at the Hilton. And if you're a beginner or want to improve your game, why not use the services of our professional for a Tennis Clinic or private tuition.

For more details of Tennis Membership, the Clinic and private tuition, please call our Recreation Manager on 2533000 or 2530000

KUWAIT HILTON

SPORTS

KARACHI WICKET EXPECTED TO TAKE SPIN FROM FIRST DAY

Pakistan set to take on Australia

KARACHI, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Australia and Pakistan begin a three-test series tomorrow on a wicket tailor-made for the deadly spin trio of Abdul Qadir, Iqbal Qasim and Tauseef Ahmad.

Chief groundsman Bashir Ahmad predicted that the bald, brown strip at Karachi's National Stadium would help both wrist and finger-spinners from the first day.

Allan Border's team have come prepared for a feast of spin and will be looking to leg-spinner Peter Sleep and off-spinner Peter Taylor to provide a counter thrust.

A question mark still hangs over the fitness of his off-spinner Tim May, who dislocated the little finger of his bowling hand in a practice match last week. He returned to bowl seven overs on Monday.

Pakistan have little choice but to rely on spin as their two best fast bowlers, Imran Khan and Wasim Akram, are unavailable. The National Stadium has an ominous history for Australia. In their 1979-80 tour, Greg Chappell's party lost by seven wickets here after a demolition job by Qasim and Tauseef.

Three years later Kim Hughes' side fared even worse, going down by nine wickets. Qadir took seven wickets and Qasim four.

Apart from these three experienced spinners, Pakistan have young leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmad in reserve. Still in his teens, he took six England wickets in an innings in a three-day



Qasim (left) and Tauseef: two of deadly spin trio

match last December.

Australian manager Colin Egar was undaunted. He told reporters this was a different and well-prepared side and he was

confident it could handle the Pakistani spinners.

Pakistan's manager Intikhab Alam also praised the tourists as a hard, fighting and well-knit

unit, but said the home team's spin attack would give it the edge. Australia adjusted to Pakistan's sultry September weather with two disciplined draws in

three-day games in Lahore and Quetta. Qadir and Qasim used themselves sparingly and the visitors were not unduly troubled by the bowling, declaring in all four innings.

The Karachi Test is the first in Pakistan since the ill-fated England tour last winter which turned into a war between the English players and local umpires.

In the absence of Imran, who opted out of the series saying it was the wrong time of year, the home team is led by star batsman Javed Miandad.

Karachi has a history of crowd trouble and the local authorities have taken strict security measures.

A high fence will keep the players away from the spectators, who are banned from carrying metal lunch boxes, transistor radios, bottles or fruit which could be used as a missile.

Teams
PAKISTAN: (from) Javed Miandad (captain), Mudassar Nazar, Rameez Raja, Shoaib Mohammad, Salim Malik, Ejaz Ahmad, Salim Yousaf, Abdul Qadir, Iqbal Qasim, Tauseef Ahmad, Saleem Jaffer, Mohsin Kamal, Mushtaq Ahmad, Aamer Malik.

AUSTRALIA: (from) Allan Border (captain), Geoff Marsh, David Boon, Tony Dodemaide, Ian Healy, Dean Jones, Craig McDermott, Tim May, Bruce Reid, Jamie Siddons, Peter Sleep, Peter Taylor, Mike Veletta, Steve Waugh, Graeme Wood.



The Sierra Cosworth to be driven by Al Hajri.

Al Hajri to switch cars for Rally de Montagne

QATAR'S Saeed Al Hajri will change cars for Lebanon's Rally de Montagne, the fourth round of the Middle East Championship which begins on October 7. Instead of his usual Group B Audi Quattro, the three-times Middle East Champion will drive a Group A Rothmans Ford Sierra Cosworth.

"With the total distance of 1,000 kms run entirely on tarmac, the Sierra is the perfect car for the job," said Al Hajri. "Although it might lack the power of the Group B cars, it has other advantages, particularly on tarmac."

Identical
The Rothmans rally team's choice of vehicle will provide a unique confrontation between the Qatari and his arch-rival, Dubai's Mohammed Bin Sulayem—both for the first time in their on-going duels for Middle East supremacy—both men will be at the wheels of identical cars.

"Mohammed should have a considerable advantage in that he is well used to the Sierra, having competed with it in Europe over the past two years," Al Hajri added. "I have never driven one before and I hope that will not be too much of a handicap."

The 295 bhp Rothmans Sierra Cosworth is a factory-built car, prepared for Lebanon by David Sutton Autosport in the UK. While this is only a temporary break from the team's Audi Quattro, it represents a preview of the shape of things to come since FISA, the world rulers of motorsport, have banned Group B cars from the 1989 Middle East series.

In the chase for this year's title, Al Hajri suffered incredible bad luck in the first three rounds—

particularly in Kuwait where he was announced provisional winner but then lost the rally on a technicality. He now lies 18 points adrift of Sulayem but is determined to fight to the finish.

"It means that I must finish first in the next three rounds in Lebanon, Oman and Dubai and Mohammed has to come home third or lower in two of them," the Rothmans star went on. "It won't be easy, especially since the Toyota has proved so reliable that it is almost invincible."

"But that can't last forever. We thought about conceding the championship; but we would have looked rather foolish if he breaks down or crashes out in one of the next three rallies. So we'll give him a good run."

This will be Al Hajri's first outing in Lebanon and he's really looking forward to it. "It's a very different kind of rally to the rest of the championship. I'm confident we can win it."

In his first ever drive on tarmac, the Qatari beat more than 90 other competitors to finish second in the Galway International in Ireland, earning the nickname 'Sideways Saeed' with his original adaptation of gravel tactics.

In between, the expected 65 entries will attempt to cover 300 kms with the remaining 700 kms in road sections.

With around 30 overseas drivers likely to make the start and the ever-threatening appearance of Michel Saleh in his Audi Quattro A2, it is by no means certain that either Al Hajri or Sulayem will win. The only sure thing is that Lebanon will host what promises to be one of the most exciting rounds of the series.

Lendl and McEnroe to play in Australian event

SYDNEY, Australia, Sept. 14, (AP): Two-time champion Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia and four-time winner John McEnroe of the United States both have entered next month's \$490,000 Swan Premium Australian Indoor Tennis Championship, tournament director Graham Lovett announced today.

Lendl, who lost his world No. 1 ranking to Mats Wilander after the Swede defeated him in the US Open final last weekend, will be the top seed for the event, Lovett said.

Lendl is the defending champion and also won the tournament in 1985.

Former Wimbledon champion Pat Cash of Australia, currently recovering from an Achilles tendon injury, is slated to be the No. 2 seed for the 32-draw

Nabisco Grand Prix super series event, which will run from Oct 10-16 at the Sydney Entertainment Centre.

Cash, currently ranked seventh in the world, was beaten by Lendl in last year's final.

Other top-30 ranked players confirmed for the event, which is to be played on a synthetic plexiglass surface, include American Tim Mayotte, Andres Gomez of Ecuador, Australian John Fitzgerald and Slobodan Zivojinovic of Yugoslavia.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Swedish Open

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 14, (UPI): The Swedish Open Grand Prix tennis tournament, set for late July each year, has come up with a novel idea to regain the strong lineup it used to attract: hiring Mats Wilander's brother Anders as tournament director. Wilander, who won the US Open final against Ivan Lendl on Sunday and rocketed to the top of the world rankings, this summer skipped the Swedish Open to rest, while most of Sweden's other top players played at Stuttgart, West Germany, instead.

Fans sentenced

ATHENS, Sept. 14, (UPI): Three young fans of soccer club Panathinaikos were sentenced to 28 months in jail for attacks and causing disorders after Sunday's Olympic games of Volos.

Baric resigns

VIENNA, Sept. 14, (UPI): Otto Baric, the Yugoslav coach of Austrian First Division soccer club Rapid, has resigned after more than five years with the club.

Allen triumphs

PHOENIX, Sept. 14, (AP): American Louise Allen bounced back from a set in which she failed to win a game to defeat Beth Herr in first-round action of the \$100,000 Virginia Slims of Arizona tennis tournament. Allen beat Herr 6-2, 6-7, 6-6.

Rangi dies

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Sept. 14, (AP): Former New Zealand Rugby Union international Ron Rangi died last night at age 47. The New Zealand Press Association reported today. No cause of death was immediately available.

W. German soccer

BONN, Sept. 14, (Reuters): West German first division soccer results yesterday:

Bayer U.	2	St Pauli	2
VfB Stuttgart	4	Nurnberg	0
Karlsruhe	1	Bochum	3
Hamburg	3	Bayer U.	0
Borussia M.	1	Stuttgart K.	1
Borussia D.	4	Hanover	0
Werder Bremen	2	Bayern M.	2
Kaiserslautern	1	Cologne	1
Eintracht F.	0	Waldhof M.	0

RESULTS of the Regency Palace Bridge Club game held on Tuesday:

N/S	1. Sherin Basayoni & Ali Basayoni
W/S	2. Nabil Akel & Narekian Shah
E/W	3. Abdul Latif Daudi & Salim Ali
N/S	1. Ali Hassan & Amer Akhbar
W/S	2. Osama Khatrat & Christian Ghar
E/W	3. Dennis Makarye & Stanley Durr

The Regency Palace Ladies Bridge Club will hold its first game of the season on Wednesday, Sept. 21, at 9.00 am.

The Mesliah Ladies Bridge Club will hold its first game of the season on Saturday, Sept. 24, at 9.00 am.

Results of the Sheraton Bridge Club game held on Tuesday:

N/S	1. N. Shah & K. Zahairi
W/S	2. L. Meouchi & Zauzairi
E/W	3. S. Saad & S. Aurora
N/S	1. A.L. Dnaji & G. Latel
W/S	2. Ravi B. & D. Pereira
E/W	3. Salama Ali & Carsten B.

Kuwait flag raised in Seoul stadium

SEOUL, Sept. 14, (KUNA): The Kuwaiti flag was raised here today among the flags of other countries participating in the Olympic Games, which will start here on Saturday.

In a ceremony attended by the head of the Kuwait Olympic Committee Sheikh Salman Al Hmoud, chairman of the Olympic Council of Asia, Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad, and officials of the International Olympic Committee, the four-colour Kuwaiti flag joined other flags at the Olympic stadium.

Kuwait is among 160 countries participating in the Games this year. About 17,000 athletes are expected to compete for medals in various sports.

On the first day of the Games, three basketball games will be played: Iraq plays Zambia, Egypt meets China and Tunisia faces Sweden.

The Olympics are being boycotted by seven countries including North Korea and Nicaragua, for political reasons. Meanwhile Kuwait's football player Abdulaziz Al Anbari expressed his pleasure at being honoured to carry the Olympic torch tomorrow.

He told Kuwaiti journalists today that he would be running one kilometre with the Olympic torch before handing it over to another athlete.

Al Anbari was chosen by the Kuwait Olympic Committee for outstanding performances for the country over the years.

Naeem takes Jubilee past Al Ahli



Naeem: five for 14

JUBILEE Cricketers thrashed Al Ahli Bank by seven wickets in a friendly match earlier this week.

Batting first, Al Ahli scored 90 runs for the loss of five wickets in their 20 overs. All the wickets were taken by Naeem Shaikh who finished with figures of five for 14.

In reply, Jubilee got the required runs for the loss of only three wickets. Opening batsman Manzoor Elahi was the top scorer with an unbeaten 42 while Nooruddin hit 23.

A. Ghulam Ali, John and Siddiqui took one wicket each.

Red Sox increase AL East lead

NEW YORK, Sept. 14, (AP): Even in a season of discontent, Jim Rice still finds moments of solace. Enough of them might make him and the Boston Red Sox very happy.

Rice, relegated to a role as part-time designated hitter, connected for his eighth career Grand Slam last night as the Red Sox beat Baltimore 6-4 and increased their lead in the American League East.

"I'm ready to play any day, but if I'm not in the lineup I can't do anything about it," Rice said after starting for just the fourth time in 14 games.

Rice, suspended earlier this season after a run-in with manager Joe Morgan, is batting .270 with 12 home runs and 61 runs batted in.

The Red Sox moved 4 1-2 behind after beating Cleveland 5-4. Milwaukee played 5 1-2 back by defeating Chicago 4-0.

In other AL games, Oakland held off Texas 2-1, Minnesota rallied past Seattle 2-1 and Kansas City downed California 4-3.

Yankees 5, Indians 4
Pinch hitter Luis Aguayo's

two-run homer in the eighth inning rallied New York over host Cleveland for its fifth victory in six hit. Neil Allen, 5-2, pitched 3 1-3 shutout innings for the victory.

Blue Jays 9, Tigers 1
Jesse Barfield hit a Grand Slam and Ernie Whitt added a two-run shot as host Toronto trounced slumping Detroit. Dave Stieb, 13-8, allowed six hits in seven innings. Ted Power, 5-7, gave up five runs in 2 1-3 innings.

Brewers 4, White Sox 0
Juan Nieves pitched a three-hitter and Paul Molitor and Robin Yount homered in the first inning to send Milwaukee over Chicago. Nieves, 6-5, struck out four and walked two in his only complete game this season.

Athletics 2, Rangers 1
Jose Canseco hit his 39th home run and Dennis Eckersley got his 40th save as Oakland cut its magic number for winning the AL West to seven. Canseco hit a two-run shot in the sixth inning and stole his 37th base, moving closer to becoming the first player to hit 40 homers and steal

40 bases in the same year.

Twins 2, Mariners 1
Jim Dwyer singled home the tying run and Tom Herr had an RBI grounder as Minnesota rallied for two runs in the ninth inning and won at Seattle. Keith Atherton, 7-5, got the victory and Jeff Reardon earned his 38th save. Bill Swift, 7-11, took the loss.

Royals 4, Angels 3
Bret Saberhagen evened his record at 14-14 as Kansas City won at California. Saberhagen gave up two runs on six hits in seven innings and struck out nine. Steve Farr got his 19th save. Chuck Finley, 9-14, took the loss.

Shutout for Shoutout, the Los Angeles Dodgers almost match up with the New York Mets.

While the Mets have grabbed all the attention with their 22 shutouts, the Dodgers quietly have compiled their own impressive total. They beat the Atlanta Braves 2-0 last night for shutout No. 19.

The victory, coupled with Houston's 5-2 loss to Cincinnati, increased the Dodgers' lead in

the National League West to 6 1-2 games over the Houston Astros.

"We're just going out there every game and playing good baseball," Mike Scioscia said after hitting a two-run homer that proved decisive. "We're confident we're going to win, but we haven't painted ourselves into a corner and put pressure on ourselves."

In other games, Pittsburgh beat New York 1-0, Montreal beat St. Louis 7-1, Chicago beat Philadelphia 9-2 and San Francisco beat San Diego 4-1.

Pirates 1, Mets 0
Bob Walk won for the first time since beating San Diego July 20 and Bobby Bonilla hit a run-scoring double, snapping the Mets' five-game winning streak. New York leads Pittsburgh by 10 games in the National League East. Walk, 12-10, allowed five hits, walked two and struck out two in eight innings before Jim Gott finished for his 29th save. Dwight Gooden, 17-7, allowed five hits and struck out seven in seven innings.

Five seeds crash out of Spanish GP

BARCELONA, Spain, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Five seeds crashed out of the \$490,000 Spanish Grand Prix tennis tournament yesterday, but top-seeded Frenchman Henri Leconte breezed through his first match.

Leconte swept aside Spain's German Lopez 6-0 6-1 in the second round.

Unseeded Argentine Franco Davin pulled off the major second round upset, ousting Spain's fourth-seeded Emilio

Sanchez after dropping the first set.

"The points were very long and that wore me down little by little," Sanchez said after Davin's 2-6 6-4 6-2 victory. "Dvin always plays defensively and on slow surfaces it's very complicated to beat him."

Dominated
Sixth seed Roland Agener from Haiti also disappointed, having lost set to beat Spain's Sergio Casal when he took the

first set 6-2. But Casal fought back to win the second and dominated the third for a 2-6 7-5 6-2 victory.

The downfall of seeds Claudio Mezzadri of Switzerland (10), Argentine Alberto Mancini (12) and Spanish hope Francisco Luna (16) completed the upsets.

Argentine Martin Jaito, 1987 winner and this year's seventh seed, cruised to an untroubled 6-3 6-1 success over Spain's Tomas Carbonell.

Woosnam lifts Welsh title

CARDIFF, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Ian Woosnam won the Welsh professional golf title yesterday to add just £5,000 (\$8,500) to his massive earnings.

The prize was £45,000 (\$76,500) less than he pocketed at the end of the European Open on Sunday but the victory gave the Welshman nearly as much pleasure on home territory.

Woosnam wanted to play in the championship to give the sport a boost in Wales.

Petranoff tries to sign athletes for South Africa

NAGARA, Japan, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Former javelin world record holder Tom Petranoff said today he had tried to recruit leading athletes for a rebel post-Olympic track tour of South Africa but doubted whether it would take place.

The American said athletes had been offered at least \$30,000 to compete in a series of three meetings which he hoped would help end the isolation of South African athletes.

"Let's separate athletics and politics," he told reporters at the

US Olympic team's pre-Games training camp outside Tokyo.

The 1983 world championship silver medalist refused to name those athletes whom he had contacted about the tour but said they included many Olympic competitors, among them 11 American record-holders and four national record-holders from other nations.

However, Petranoff said the original contract he had signed was looking "shaky," and he was thinking of withdrawing from the series scheduled for October 11, 15 and 17.

Martin and Robertson win

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept. 14, (Reuters): Australians Rodney Martin and Chris Robertson, seeded one and two, marched into the second round of the Malaysian Open squash tournament yesterday.

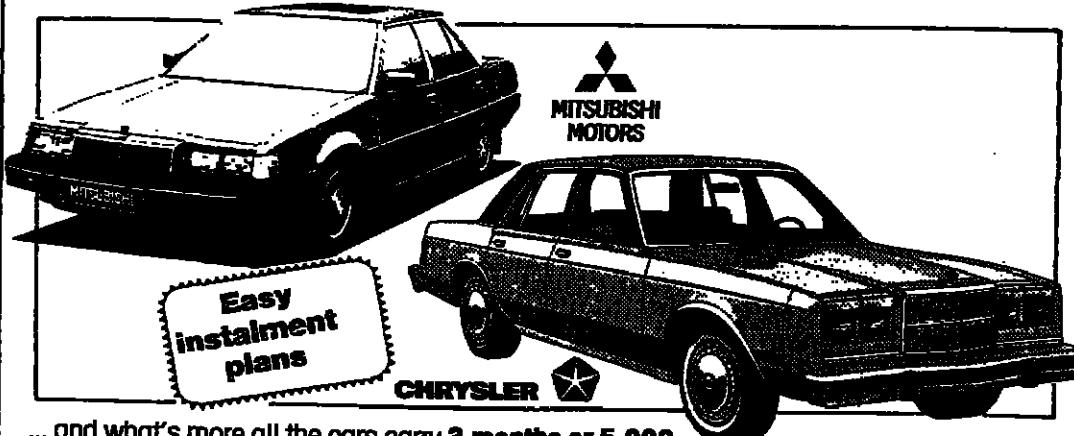
Martin is favourite to take the title in the absence of Jansher Khan and Jahangir Khan after organisers failed to find sponsors to put up appearance money for

the Pakistani superstars. Martin beat Frederik Johnson of Sweden 9-5 9-5 8-10 9-1, while Robertson made short work of Finland's Sami Elopuro 9-4 9-1 9-2.

Singapore's Peter Hill, who had to come through a qualifying round, surprisingly beat veteran Geoff Hunt of Australia 0-9 6-9 4-7 9-2.

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